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OF  
SERVICE  
**S**  
**L**  
**A**  
**N**  
**G**

by

GOBS

SPARS

pitkit ... an ashtray

WACS

WAFS

izzlies ... Navy cotton

MARINES

stockings

WAVES

rmored heifer ... canned

SOLDIERS

milk

SEABEES

ight bomber ... playboy

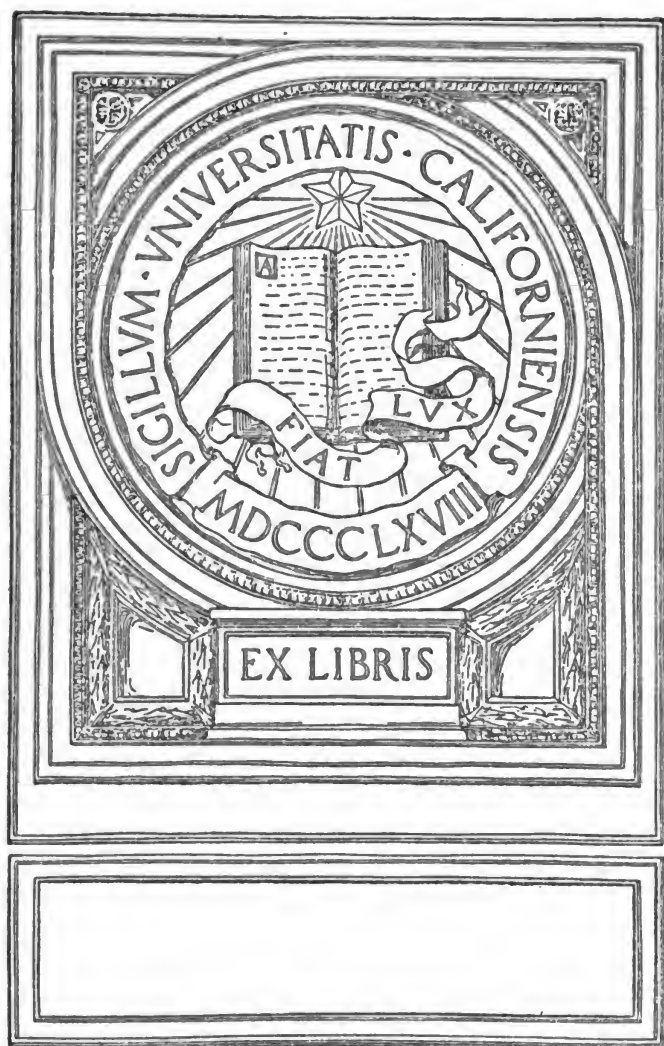
NURSES

WOMEN'S

RESERVE

ruesome twosome ...

a Wac's regulation shoes







*DICTIONARY*  
*of*  
SERVICE SLANG

**OWKS!  
SUCH LANGUAGE!**

**YOU AIN'T  
KIDDIN',  
BABE.  
THIS IS **IT** !**



*Dictionary*  
*of*  
**SERVICE SLANG**

*Compiled by*  
**PARK KENDALL**

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In line with this ruling and in order to conserve materials and manpower, we are co-operating by (a) using lighter-weight paper which reduces the bulk of our books, and (b) printing books with smaller margins and with more words to each page. The text itself is not abridged or shortened in any way.

We are sure that readers will understand the publisher's desire to co-operate as fully as possible with the objectives of our government.

NO MORE  
ABRIDGED

MANUFACTURED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
BY THE VAIL-BALLOU PRESS, INC., BINGHAMTON, N. Y.



*With many thanks to the men and women  
in our armed services.*

This richly humorous and picturesque slang has been assembled from thousands of postal cards and letters received from lads and lassies wearing Uncle Sam's uniforms in barracks, battleships and bombers; from deserts and seas and jungles around the globe.

This authentic collection of dazzling and disrespectful slanguage fulfills a double purpose—that of education and entertainment. If you are a civilian, it enables you to speak the language of the service. If you wear the uniform, you will find in this book all the regular G.I. slang from your outfit along with some innovations in cryptic cussing of literary beauty.

ML335.F42



# ARMY SLANG

## A

**AAF**....American Air Force.  
**Ack-Ack**....a machine gun, also known as a Scatter gun, Shot gun, Chatterbox. Anti-aircraft gun.  
**acting gadget**....acting corporal.  
**Adjutant's Post**....spot on parade grounds where Adjutant stands during a review—also a run-around. Recruits have been known to walk miles to borrow one.  
**African golf**....crap shooting.  
**air corps chicken**....a fowl that is all wings.  
**air log**....altimeter.  
**alibi order**....firing an extra shot because of rifle trouble or something.  
**ammo**....ammunition.  
**angel**....anyone who buys a drink.  
**angel cake and wine**....bread and water in confinement.  
**apple knocker**....upstate farm hand now in infantry.  
**Archies**....anti-aircraft guns.  
**Are you writing a book?**....turn-away reply for over-inquisitive.  
**arm bender**....a drinking party.  
**arm dropper**....section chief or sergeant who signals to fire.  
**an Arthur Donovan**....soldier who thinks he can referee war maneuvers.  
**armor**....the steel helmet.  
**pass the armored cow**....canned milk.  
**army banjo**....shovel.  
**army Bible**....regulations.  
**army brat**....small child of an officer . . . such disrespect, tch, tch! Sometimes called G I brats. Well, that's better.  
**army chicken**....beans and frankfurters.  
**Aussies or Anzacs**....soldiers from Australia and New Zealand.

**awkward squad**....where backward rookies receive elementary instruction.

**A W O L**....absent without leave—also A Wolf On the Loose After Women or Liquor.

## B

**B 19**....a hefty girl.

**B Boy**....playful allusion to a mess sergeant. It insinuates soldiers will have to dine later and mess sergeant will derive a commission from the café.

**the baby carriage**...machine gun cart.

**baby food**....cereal.

**back in the rack**....to get back into bed. A soldier should never go to work as long as he has the strength to lie in bed.

**a back-yard soldier**....lives nearby and goes home week-ends.

**Do you have a badge?**....I say, old man, aren't you being a bit nosey?

**baffle painting**....camouflage.

**bag**....a woman.

**Baltimore steak**....liver.

**barb wire garters**....imaginary—awarded as a consolation in lieu of medals or citations.

**a barker**....big artillery gun.

**barracks fatigue**....loafing in quarters.

**Barracks 13**....the guardhouse.

**a barrage**....a party where a jug is produced and the spirited contents trickle musically into the glasses.

**a barrow jockey**....pushes a wheelbarrow.

**bathroom stationery**....a roll of tissue.

**bath tub**....motorcycle sidecar.

**battery acid**....coffee, also known as ink.

the bean gun . . . rolling kitchen.  
 beans . . . commissary officer.  
 bean shooter . . . civilian dietician at Post.  
 bear grease . . . G I soap. (pronounced B'ar)  
 a bearded lady . . . a searchlight that diffuses.  
 beautify the Post . . . miscellaneous chores like lawn cutting, hedge trimming or painting.  
 a beetle . . . a girl to Alaska soldiers.  
 beetsoom . . . Beats the stuff out of me; or, I don't know.  
 behavior report . . . letter to the girl friend.  
 belly robber . . . inelegant reference to the cook.  
 to bend the throttle . . . fly above normal cruising speed.  
 a benny . . . a break in formation during which a soldier can rest or smoke—also a sloppy soldier.  
 benzine board . . . group of officers who set penalties.  
 best you . . . an implication that if you know what is best for you it is best that you do as directed.  
 B G . . . before girls enlisted and complicated the army.  
 Bible . . . Army Field Manual.  
 Big Boot . . . the General.  
 big Berthas . . . hefty dames.  
 big John . . . a recruit from the country.  
 bird dogging . . . dancing with a superior's girl.  
 biscuit gun . . . non-existent—shoots food to inept flyers.  
 he's biting butts . . . broke and smoking butts.  
 bivoucky . . . nuts from maneuvers.  
 to blab off . . . talk out of turn.  
 the Black Eagle . . . the guy you get all your confidential latrine rumors from.  
 black hawk . . . army necktie.  
 pass the blackout . . . general issue coffee—also known as black-strap,

tar-water and solvent and boiler compound.  
 black strap . . . coffee.  
 black Wednesday . . . rifle calisthenics.  
 blanket drill . . . sleep.  
 blankets . . . hot cakes.  
 blanko water . . . coffee—also known as bootleg and jamoke.  
 he blew his stack . . . got excited and made a series of mistakes.  
 he blew his top . . . lost his temper.  
 a baby blimp . . . a jolly fat girl.  
 a blind . . . the money fine in a court martial sentence.  
 blind flying . . . date with unseen girl.  
 a blitz . . . bombardment.  
 blitzes . . . air patrols.  
 Blitzkrieg . . . lightning offensive technique for borrowing money. The rush act—also written order from commanding officer. (in Southern drawl) *Bless its haht, it's dahlin, but it's gotta die.* Means Bless it's heart, it's darling, but it's got to die. Which means it's just too cute to live so I'll have to kill it.  
 a blitzkrieg rating . . . a promotion due to sudden expanse of the army.  
 blood . . . ketchup—also known as redeye and red lead.  
 blow it out of your bag . . . refrain from talking, if you will be so good!  
 blowing smoke . . . trying to impress officer.  
 a blue moon . . . a dime a dance girl.  
 blue tuxedos . . . denims, sometimes called blue serge.  
 a bob tail . . . a dishonorable discharge.  
 a bobber . . . carries tales.  
 boggies . . . wheels on 3 inch anti-aircraft gun.  
 a bog pocket . . . tightwad.  
 a bolo . . . soldier who fails on firing range.  
 bologna . . . all cold meats.  
 a bomb-a-deer . . . bomber personnel.

**a bomb heaver** . . . . a pretty girl.  
**a bomber mouse** . . . . refers to the sooty ring around the right eye of a Bombardier from peering through the soft rubber eye piece of the famous Norden bombsight.  
**boom boom** . . . . any small arm.  
**a boogie woogie boy** . . . . a jitterbug draftee.  
**the boss** . . . . top sergeant, also known as Pop.  
**a bottle baby** . . . . one who freely imbibes alcohol.  
**the boudoir** . . . . squad tent.  
**bow legs** . . . . horse cavalrymen.  
**a brace** . . . . exaggerated position of attention.  
**brain food** . . . . noodle soup.  
**a brass hat** . . . . staff officer.  
**brass pounder** . . . . radio telegrapher.  
**bread sergeant** . . . . dining room orderly. Just an ordinary private doing K. P. heh, heh, heh!  
**a brief** . . . . week-end leave.  
**the brig** . . . . army jail—also known as the can, clink, stockade, hoosegow, detention barracks, guard-house, mill, the playhouse and in the moosh.  
**they broke him** . . . . took away rank—also piled or busted.  
**a broolly** . . . . parachute, RAF—sometimes called the life insurance.  
**brown bombers** . . . . CC pills, the army laxative.  
**a brown nose** . . . . handshaker or army politician.  
**to brown off** . . . . to be bored or fed up.  
**bubble dancing** . . . . kitchen police.  
**a buck private** . . . . everybody ranks him as he is the rankest.  
**a bucket of boost** . . . . this assists a pilot to get a plane off the ground. Suppose you try to locate some. What do you say? Start with the Major.  
**bucking** . . . . trying for promotion.  
**bucking for a section 8** . . . . trying to

get discharged for ineptitude. And can top sergeants spot the sham? I'd rather fight Japs with a yo yo.  
**a buck sergeant** . . . . ordinary line sergeant.  
**to buck up** . . . . shine brass buttons for inspection.  
**a buddie** . . . . anybody anywhere who will loan you anything.  
**the buddy seat** . . . . side car on motorcycle.  
**bugs** . . . . any solids found in soup.  
**he built a wooden horse** . . . . made a shattering plane landing.  
**built-in head wind** . . . . implying a plane lacks speed.  
**on the bull** . . . . on the target.  
**a bull dog** . . . . Military Police.  
**the bull pen** . . . . sanctuary where an erring soldier can be alone with his gun and walk for hours on end without interruption.  
**pass the bullets** . . . . beans.  
**Bunion Breeders** . . . . infantry, also known as Paddlefeet.  
**bunk fatigue** . . . . forty winks—every soldier's ambition. To lie abed.  
**bunk flying** . . . . talking aviation in quarters, also known as horizontal flying.  
**bunk stretcher** . . . . imaginary tool to perplex rookies.  
**my Bunky** . . . . my pal. He shares your pup tent, your cigarets, your money, your joys, your sorrows, your girl—well, maybe I went too far there.  
**burn and turn** . . . . black jack game.  
**buscar** . . . . borrowed money.  
**Butch** . . . . friendly term for commanding officer. Also known as the K.O., Skipper and the Old Man. Used in his absence, of course.  
**butt** . . . . balance of enlistment.  
**butts up** . . . . same as Police Up. Means pick up anything not growing in the ground.  
**full of butterflies** . . . . full of burps.  
**button chopper** . . . . the laundry.  
**button it up** . . . . close tank.

all buttoned up . . . . orders carried out.  
a buzz . . . . widespread rumor.  
buzzard . . . . chicken.  
Buzzard Buster . . . . air corps.  
the Buzzers . . . . Signal Corps.

## C

cackle jelly . . . . eggs.  
Cadre . . . . skeleton force in expanding unit.  
Camel Corps . . . . infantry—also foot sloggers and gravel crushers.  
he's camp happy . . . . a little touched.  
cannon ball . . . . grapefruit.  
the cannon report . . . . a rookie run-around. Everybody suggests places where he may obtain one. Fun for all.  
the canteen . . . . army retail store—carries everything a soldier needs.  
canteen medals . . . . beer stains.  
a canteen soldier . . . . wears non-regulation garb or insignia.  
carrier pigeon . . . . soldier carrying officers' messages.  
carrying a heavy load . . . . melancholy, depressed.  
Casey Jones . . . . winch man on barage balloon.  
cat beer . . . . milk.  
Caterpillar Club . . . . a jump for life in a parachute qualifies for membership.  
C B . . . . confined to barracks.  
CC pills . . . . relieve sluggishness caused by faulty elimination. The Medical Corps' first diagnosis.  
CC pushers . . . . medical corps.  
chasing prisoners . . . . guarding unlucky stiffs at work.  
a light chassis . . . . well built girl.  
going to change my oil . . . . take a bath.  
a check ride . . . . flight to determine cadet's fitness.  
the cheese toaster . . . . bayonet—also known as cat stabber, pig sticker, toadsticker and toothpick.  
chest hardware . . . . medals—also called gongs.  
a Chicago piano . . . . tommy gun.  
a Chicago atomizer . . . . automatic rifle.  
chicken . . . . extremely young recruit.  
a chili bowl . . . . regulation haircut.  
China berries . . . . English peas.  
a China clipper . . . . a dishwasher on K. P.  
a Chinese landing . . . . one wing low.  
he made a Chinese 3 point landing . . . . crashed.  
to choke up . . . . to have the mind leave the body.  
chow . . . . army food, also known as slum.  
a chow hound . . . . makes eating a career.  
he bought his girl a chubby . . . . was broke so he gave her a pinch on the cheek and spent the evening smoking her old man's cigarets and raiding the ice box.  
he cinched the bread . . . . took last piece and didn't refill the dish.  
pass the city cow . . . . canned milk.  
civvies . . . . clothes you sold when you entered the army.  
the Clara . . . . the all clear air raid signal RAF.  
a class A pass . . . . leave any time not on duty.  
a class B pass . . . . leave between retreat and reveille.  
to climb somebody . . . . scold or razz.  
a clinker . . . . wrong note in music.  
to clip-clip . . . . to steal.  
clobber . . . . clothes.  
clods . . . . pennies.  
a clover leaf . . . . a shot landing in the black and white disc on the firing range.  
a cluck . . . . the company clerk, also known as a jerk.  
he got cold cocked . . . . knocked out.  
in a cockpit fog . . . . mentally upset.  
cockpit trouble . . . . an airplane

wreck caused by the pilot rather than mechanical difficulty.  
**code-happy**....exuberant Radio school student.  
**coffin inspection**....foot locker inspection.  
**Come on the Green!**....challenge to fight.  
**comb it**....make detailed inspection of tank.  
**the Company clown**....company clerk.  
**the company screwball**....a comedian in khaki.  
**cop a Sunday**....sock somebody without warning.  
**corn squeezins**....whisky made on the farm.  
**corn willie**....corned beef in tins.  
**the corpse**....affectionate term for corps.  
**a corpuscle**....a corporal.  
**cosmolines**....the Artillery.  
**the country club**....Randolph flying field.  
**a cowboy**....a tank driver.  
**cowboy hat**....campaign hat.  
**a CQ**....the guy who blows the whistle to get the men up in the morning. He follows the bugler and is in Charge of Quarters.  
**a crash**....an omelette.  
**crash tag**....identification bracelet.  
**cream on a shingle**....creamed beef on toast.  
**croot**....recruit, also known as a yearo, rookie, trainee, draftee, selectee, bimbo, bozo, dude, John dogface, bucko, poggie and once in a while called a soldier.  
**cross bar hotel**....the guardhouse.  
**crow**....chicken.  
**crow bar hotel**....another affectionate term for the dear old army jail.  
**crumb hunt**....kitchen inspection.  
**crump hole**....crater made by explosion.  
**the crying towel**....the Chaplain's shirt tail.

**cuckoos**....bombers, also known as hornets.  
**cueballs**....the lads the student barber works on.  
**cushy**....soft and easy.

## D

**Daisy May**....fatigue hat, blue denim.  
**the day room**....club room in barracks.  
**a deadbeat**....leaves a negligible scrap on the plate to avoid refilling it.  
**Dean of the Latrine**....private scrubbing plumbing.  
**deep-sea turkey**....salmon.  
**defrosting**....drinking liquor.  
**the dentist**....gas man on barrage balloon.  
**Devil's bonnet**....steel helmet.  
**the Devil's piano**....machine gun.  
**didie bag**....where soldier keeps valuables.  
**didie pins**....single gold bars worn on shoulder.  
**Dihedral oil**....sounds technical but raw recruits can't locate any. Do you suppose it's a run-a-round?  
**Ding How**....O.K.  
**dipped**....failed.  
**a dirt bag**....a soldier on the garbage detail.  
**discipline**....soldiers always say disciplin'.  
**Dit Da Artist**....radio operator.  
**dive bombing**....policing up.  
**in dock**....hospital—also sick bay.  
**dodging the column**....avoiding work.  
**dodo**....cadet before he flies, also known as a penguin.  
**dog**....affectionate term for cavalryman's horse, also called a job.  
**dog fat**....butter.  
**dogged up**....dressed up.  
**the dog house**....the guardhouse.  
**dog robber**....the Captain's orderly.

a dog show . . . . foot inspection.  
 dog tag . . . . identification disc worn  
 around neck.  
 a dolly dancer . . . . soldier on office  
 duty who caters to officers.  
 Don't break the shovel . . . . a shovel  
 is used by the lads down at the  
 stables to throw stuff about. Need  
 we go further?  
 Don't give me a bad time . . . . don't  
 annoy me.  
 a doodle bug . . . . tank.  
 a dopey crate . . . . a poor airplane.  
 a double PFC . . . . a corporal.  
 in a down draft . . . . caught in an em-  
 barrassing situation.  
 downhill . . . . on last half of enlist-  
 ment, sometimes called over the  
 hump.  
 a down-wind . . . . always looking in  
 a mirror or combing his hair.  
 drafted acrobats . . . . parachute jump-  
 ers.  
 Drag . . . . a date with a girl.  
 Dragging . . . . dating.  
 draped . . . . intoxicated.  
 Driftee . . . . draftees, also called year-  
 lings.  
 drive it in the hangar . . . . stop talking.  
 DRO . . . . day room orderly.  
 be droopy . . . . screwy.  
 dry ammunition . . . . for practice only.  
 a dry canteen . . . . serves everything  
 but merry mucilage.  
 a dry run . . . . simulating action; a  
 rehearsal.  
 dual flying . . . . date with chaperon  
 along. Cramps your style.  
 dud . . . . disappointment.  
 duds . . . . unexploded shells, also  
 known as fizzles.  
 duff gen . . . . rumors.  
 a Dulalley tap . . . . sunstroke.  
 dust dust . . . . soldier with new chev-  
 rons which he polishes often.  
 dynamite pills . . . . urge nature.

## E

eagle day . . . . pay day.  
 an ear-banger . . . . extols merits to  
 officers.  
 an eagle walker . . . . the Colonel's  
 orderly.  
 an egg beater . . . . spill. Ski troops.  
 eggs in the beer . . . . too much of a  
 good thing.  
 an eight ball . . . . soldier always in  
 trouble.  
 elephants' traps . . . . holes dug for ref-  
 use.  
 erks . . . . mechanics in RAF.  
 where is your ess sprit dec corpse?  
 . . . . inelegant reference to high  
 brotherhood ideals—Esprit de  
 Corps.  
 ether . . . . radio telephone.  
 eyes sharp . . . . unofficial order to note  
 oncoming female.  
 eyes wide open . . . . eggs straight up.

## F

the faint wagon . . . . ambulance.  
 the Fanny . . . . empennage or rear  
 portion of plane.  
 fat friends . . . . observation balloons  
 —also known as flying elephants.  
 fatigue . . . . army chores outside of  
 drill.  
 feather merchants . . . . civilian work-  
 ers on army cantonment.  
 my fi'nance . . . . fiancée.  
 find out the score . . . . get the cor-  
 rect information.  
 he's fighting the war in triplicate  
 . . . . making triplicate forms in an  
 office.  
 to file a flight plan . . . . discuss fur-  
 lough plans.  
 file it . . . . make a straight toss to the  
 wastebasket.  
 fireworks . . . . anti-aircraft fire—also  
 known as AA bursts.  
 fish eyes . . . . tapioca with raisins.



flag waver....imaginary apparatus  
 for amazement of rookies.  
 to flash the hooks....display your  
 rank.  
 flea bag....your mattress.  
 fleas....4 cylinder Fords and Aus-  
 tins.  
 he flew too near the sun....the end.  
 to flog....to sell.  
 a flop....a false air alarm.  
 the Flower of the Nation....a term  
 the newspapers used in referring  
 to the trainees. But a soldier uses  
 it to refer to anyone with a touch  
 of lavender—also known as a  
 fluff, a fairy, a daisy or a fuff.  
 flower pot....plane pot turret.  
 to fly by the seat of your pants....  
 do it by instinct.  
 a flying gadget....a flying cadet.  
 a flying K. P....student mechanic  
 who polishes planes.  
 a flying pig....aerial torpedo.  
 flying the iron beam....pilot flying  
 along railroad.  
 flying the wet beam....flying along  
 river.  
 to fly one wing low....inebriated.  
 flyslicer....a mounted cavalryman.  
 fog factory....region of fogs.  
 for the jump....orderly room pa-  
 rade.  
 Foo Chon....secret code word  
 meaning the poker game.  
 a footlocker cocktail....lemon ex-  
 tract substituting for liquor.  
 a four by four....a four wheel drive  
 truck with four speeds forward.  
 400W....maple syrup.  
 a fox hole....pit dug to protect  
 body.  
 a frogskin....a dollar bill.  
 it's from hunger....below standard,  
 screwy.  
 front and center....won't you  
 kindly come forward?  
 fudge....army soap.  
 he's full of feathers....a cheerful  
 liar.

funeral glide....plane out of con-  
 trol.  
 funeral pie....raisin pie.  
 fuzzie-wuzzies....winter issue trou-  
 sers, also called blankets.

## G

G I....general issue, which refers  
 to anything carried by the Quar-  
 termaster.  
 G I brats....officers' children.  
 G I cans....galvanized iron cans  
 used for garbage.  
 a G I cocktail....a dose of salts.  
 a G I haircut....cut to 1 inch.  
 a G I hop....dance.  
 the G I Jesus....the Chaplain.  
 (Used with affection.)  
 G I lemonade....water.  
 G I turkey....corned beef.  
 a G I war....maneuver, a rehearsal.  
 a gabbing jam....in a huddle over  
 dames.  
 G 2....inquisitiveness.  
 a G man....a garbage man.  
 gadgets....show tickets.  
 galloping dominoes....dice, also  
 called parlor golf.  
 galvanized Guernsey....canned  
 milk, also called tintitty.  
 garrison shoes....army dress shoes.  
 a gas house....a beer joint, some-  
 times referred to as a hangar.  
 the gas house gang....chemical in-  
 structors.  
 a gasoline cowboy....in the armored  
 force.  
 he's gear happy....truck driver who  
 shifts excessively.  
 gedunks....doughnuts.  
 geese....enemy bombers.  
 the General's car....a wheelbarrow.  
 a Gentleman by Act of Congress  
 ....an officer.  
 Georgia ice cream....grits.  
 a germ bird....a soldier quaran-  
 tined for illness.

**a Gertrude**....a soldier on office duty.  
**he can't get off the ground with her**....impress the girl.  
**get on the ball**....concentrate, get going.  
**get on the bit**....pay attention.  
**get the lead out of your pants**....  
     would you be good enough to move with a bit more alacrity?  
**he is getting the lemonade**....getting eliminated or dismissed.  
**ghost suit**....white uniforms of Ski Troops.  
**a gig**....demerit.  
**gigged**....denied leave for some minor infraction.  
**a gig getter**....a gun that won't pass inspection.  
**a gigolo**....anyone who gets a letter or phone call from a girl.  
**a gin mill**....serves alcoholic beverages.  
**give it to grandma**....put in low gear.  
**giving the oil**....smooth talk to whitewash transgression.  
**glamour boy**....selectee. Sometimes called a goon.  
**glue**....money.  
**a goat**....a horse.  
**a gobstick**....clarinet, also a licorice stick.  
**going boom boom**....to the rifle range.  
**going up the pole**....refrain from alcohol.  
**go into a tail spin**....get mad.  
**a gold brick**....a soldier who eats and sleeps well but has no desire for work.  
**goldfish**....canned salmon.  
**he has gone on the tack**....for sworn alcoholic beverages.  
**good 'til the last drop**....parachute jumper.  
**a goof burner**....smokes marijuana.

**goofers**....book matches, strike one and then goof another.  
**to goof off**....make mistake at drill.  
**a goofy discharge**....given the mentally unfit, sometimes called a Section 8.  
**goo goos**....natives of the Philippines.  
**gooks**....brown skin natives.  
**goosing the wind**....hitch hiking.  
**Go to Hell caps**....over-seas caps.  
**grass**....any vegetable salad.  
**a Gismo**....used in lieu of technical name, also known as a gadget and doofunny.  
**in grandma**....low gear.  
**a gravel agitator**....infantryman.  
**the grey ghost**....commander's plane, the last ride on the government if you fail.  
**grinders**....teeth.  
**a griper**....always complaining.  
**that gripes me**....that gets me.  
**groan box**....radio.  
**a ground loop**....horizontal spin on landing plane.  
**a grouse**....chronic grumbler.  
**a grubber**....lowest ranks in the army, even one grade below a yardbird.  
**a grunt**....electrician's helper.  
**a guardhouse lawyer**....one who gives bad advice.  
**gun the potatoes**....might I trouble you for the potatoes?

## H

**half gone**....hungry.  
**to halt and freeze**....assume the position of attention.  
**hand cuff volunteer**....selective service draftee.  
**hand grenades**....hamburger.  
**handshaker**....Hi Sarge, have a cigar?  
**a hangar pilot**....mechanic who talks a great flight.

Hang it in and let 'er go!....war  
 cry of Tank Corps.  
 hard money....silver coins.  
 a hardtail....an army mule, also  
 known as a jughead.  
 hash stripes....enlistment stripes  
 worn on sleeve.  
 a hatrack....a horse—also a hay-  
 burner.  
 hay....sauerkraut.  
 headstone....the pillow.  
 a heap....an airplane, for variety  
 called a bus, a crate and a job.  
 heart trouble....girl worry.  
 hedge hopping....low flying.  
 heeled....solvent. Sometimes known  
 as "in the chips."  
 hell buggy....a tank.  
 to herd....to drive.  
 to herd a crate....to pilot a plane.  
 herdbound....soldier or animal un-  
 fit for further military service.  
 highball....salute.  
 higher than a Georgia pine....  
 flustered.  
 Hi Jackson....friendly exchange of  
 greetings.  
 hip flask....a 45 cal. pistol.  
 hitch....an enlistment.  
 hit the fluffy whites....sleep in a  
 civilian bed.  
 hit the silk....use a parachute.  
 hive....to discover, to catch.  
 hobo....Provost Marshal.  
 a hoggie....a dollar.  
 a Hollywood Corporal....an acting  
 corporal, sometimes called a gadget.  
 Holy Flaw!....ejaculation to re-  
 lieve strong feelings. Clean if not  
 completely satisfying.  
 holy Joe....the Chaplain.  
 a homing device....a leave of ab-  
 sence.  
 the honey wagon....the garbage  
 truck.  
 the hook....any one of the three  
 injections a soldier receives.  
 an H P....a hot pilot, also called  
 a gimper, a goopher and an eagle.

horizontal pleasure....sleep.  
 Horsecollar, Soldiers!....I do not  
 wish to question the sincerity of  
 your statement but might I sug-  
 gest that you re-check the sources  
 of information on which your af-  
 firmation is predicated.  
 horsing 'er down....swooping to  
 scare pedestrians.  
 a hot crate....a speedy plane.  
 a housewife....rookies suspect  
 horseplay here but it is a real  
 sewing kit.  
 a hull thumper....a shell ejector.  
 I'm hurtin'....broke.

## I

an icicle....a draftee—means a drip  
 caught in the draft.  
 I'm a parachutist so I don't know  
 ....stock answer when a strange  
 soldier asks directions.  
 he's in a flat spin....a bit touched.  
 in a storm....excited.  
 invisible paint for camouflage....  
 here we go again—a rookie's  
 merry-go-round.  
 Irish grapes....potatoes.  
 iron....any silver coin.  
 the iron horses....tanks.  
 iron ponies....motorcycles.

## J

jack....money.  
 jam up....swell, excellent.  
 he's jammy....very lucky.  
 a jawbone....a soldier who is great  
 on theory but poor on practice.  
 got it on jawbone....on credit.  
 jazzing it....diving close to the  
 ground.  
 a Java driver....tank driver who  
 develops trouble in every town.  
 Jeep....reconnaissance truck, also  
 known as a jitterbug.  
 Jeepville....recruit center. In some  
 camps a jeep is a rookie.

he's jeepy....not quite all there.  
 Jeeter....2nd Lieutenant.  
 Jerries....German planes.  
 she's a neat job....a comely female.  
 Joe Blow....means any soldier.  
 John L's....woolen underwear,  
 sometimes called Long Johns.  
 joy wagon....airplane used for  
 practice.  
 juice shooter....fast code sender.  
 a jumping jeep....autogiro with  
 jump take-off.  
 a Jumping Jesus....a Chaplain with  
 the Paratroops.  
 jungle money....canteen checks.

## K

the kangaroo....sergeant of the  
 guard.  
 keep your nose down on the turns  
 ....take it easy.  
 keep your tail clear....away from  
 enemy gun sights.  
 keeps dainty....well behaved, re-  
 fined young lad. Whoo hoo!  
 Kelly's eye....one only.  
 Kendall did it....used to prove all  
 things. Shining example of model  
 soldier who accomplishes wonders  
 in studying army regulations. Also  
 used in buck passing. Good for  
 alibis.  
 kennel rations....meat loaf or hash.  
 key to the flagpole....more keys  
 get lost in the army than any-  
 place.  
 key to the parade grounds....  
 rookies are sent to find it.  
 key to the rifle range....yep, you  
 guessed it.  
 khakiwacks....soldiers,  
 kick into a maneuver....dodge fire  
 from rear.  
 the kid....co-pilot in a bomber.  
 kip....bed.  
 a kiwi....a bunk pilot.  
 knocked off....stolen.

knock off....please refrain from  
 talking.  
 knuckle buster....Crescent wrench.  
 to go on K P duty....to pitch in  
 and assist the cook wherever pos-  
 sible in the preparation and serv-  
 ing of food. To bring to shining  
 brilliance the cooking utensils. To  
 mop and scrub in cheery manner.  
 Yes—you bet!

## L

he's a bit lacy....girlish.  
 laid out for inspection....uncon-  
 scious for any reason.  
 a lance-jack....acting corporal or  
 acting gadget.  
 Shall we exercise the landing gear?  
 ....take a walk?  
 lapping it up....quaffing beer in  
 vigorous fashion.  
 a latrinegram....a wild rumor.  
 a latrine rumor....an unsubstan-  
 tiated tale.  
 a latrine sergeant....an enlisted man  
 who takes it upon himself to issue  
 orders.  
 the laundry....faculty boards. They  
 wash flyers out.  
 lawnmower....a razor, sometimes  
 called the scraper.  
 laying their eggs....bombers at  
 work.  
 laying track....speeding in a tank.  
 a Leatherneck....a Marine.  
 leaving calling cards....bombers un-  
 loading.  
 leggings stretcher....rookies hunt  
 in vain to locate one. Clean fun.  
 let her eat!....keep the tank ad-  
 vancing.  
 lid....apprentice signal operator.  
 lighthouses....salt and pepper shak-  
 ers.  
 little poison....37 mm gun.  
 little Wolf....corporal.  
 L'il Abners....army shoes, also  
 groundhogs or bundockers.

the limp line....soldiers reporting  
for sick call.  
live ammunition....no fooling.  
loop him....sock him.  
pass Lot's wife....the salt.  
lower the boom....sock somebody.  
low on amps and voltage....out of  
ambition and ideas.  
lumber....toothpicks.

## M

machine oil....syrup for pancakes.  
made a forced landing....slipped  
and fell.  
a Mac West....a buoyant life sav-  
ing jacket that slips on like a  
vest—and—well, you get the idea.  
Maggie's drawers....a red flag on  
the firing range indicates that the  
shot has missed the target com-  
pletely.  
Malum....I understand. (India).  
marfak....butter, also known as  
salve.  
he hasn't many marbles....brains.  
maneuvers....a soldier's way with  
a lass.  
Matilda....blanket roll.  
a Me....a Messerschmitt plane.  
the meat box....front gun turret  
on a bomber.  
meat wagon....ambulance.  
mechanical rats....two-way loud  
speaker system connecting barrack  
sleeping quarters with non-com-  
missioned officer's room. Prevents  
privacy.  
mess gear....eating utensils.  
call Mercy ooo....advice given to  
a wailer—supposed to be Chap-  
lain's number.  
an M G....a machine gunner.  
mice....small balls of lint which  
appear on the floor during inspec-  
tion. They roll around until they  
are noticed, the company penalized,  
then they disappear until next in-  
spection. Uncanny, I call it.

mill....airplane motor.  
a Milwaukee goiter....obesity at the  
waistline.  
misery pipe....bugle.  
a mitt flopper....a yes man, caters  
to officers, salutes unnecessarily.  
Model T Sergeant....soldier with  
Technician 3rd Class Rating.  
the Mona....moaning of an air raid  
alarm.  
money bags....paymaster.  
a moonburn....searchlight drill.  
moongazers....aircraft warning  
companies.  
mothballs....recruits.  
a Mother McCrea....a sad story for  
an alibi.  
motorized foot locker....bantam  
car.  
motorized freckles....cooties, also  
known as mobile dandruff or  
mechanized moles.  
a mousetrap....submarine.  
an M.P....military police—soldiers  
invested with authority to enforce  
orders.  
muck in....share it.  
a mustard....a smart pilot.  
a muster button....you have to  
have one to wear on your uni-  
form to show the paymaster that  
you have been mustered into Fed-  
eral service, otherwise you won't  
get your check—and a rookie is  
aboard the merry-go-round again.

## N

napoo....no more.  
Nappy....the company barber.  
N B G....no blankety good.  
N. G.'s....National Guardsmen in  
Federal service.  
nibby....nosey, unduly inquisitive.  
he's a night bomber....playboy.  
a 90 day wonder....newly com-  
missioned 2nd Lieutenant.  
nipper....a recruit, also known as  
a dumbjohn.

a non com....a non-commissioned officer.  
North Dakota rice....hot cereal.

## O

O A O....the One and Only girl.  
O D....olive drab, also Officer of the Day.  
Off and On!....unofficial command meaning off your bed and on your feet.  
off the beam....acting wild.  
climb into the office....the cockpit.  
Old Faithful....soldier who sets fuse range.  
old file....old soldier. Also known as old issue, old settler and retread.  
old foggy pay....extra pay for service after 4 years.  
old issue....peacetime soldier still in.  
old soldier....a 17 in blackjack.  
are you on the beam?....O. K.?  
on the bit....cavalry term meaning alert.  
on instruments....drunk.  
on the line....all orders executed.  
on the Oriental....brought to task.  
On the wall!....wanted on the 'phone.  
one striper....private first class.  
an onion....a dope or a wet blanket.  
onions....anti-aircraft blasts.  
an oojah....a gadget.  
out on a rhubarb....ground strafing from a plane.  
the Outfit....your organization.  
he got an outside loop....the run-around.  
Over the Hill....desertion.  
over the hump....retirement after 30 years.

## P

pack drill....extra drill as punishment.

all packed up....dead.  
Padre....chaplain. Often called a sky scout.  
paint remover....coffee.  
a panhandler....hospital orderly.  
a pantywaist....a sissy.  
panther blood....raw liquor.  
paper nickels....canteen checks.  
parted his teeth....scored a bull's-eye.  
Paul Prys....anti-aircraft searchlights.  
you'd better pay your rent....lay off the ladies.  
a pearl diver....a dishwasher on K. P.  
a pearl handle....machine rolled cigaret.  
pea shooter....pursuit plane.  
pea shooter....rifle.  
pea soup....thick fog.  
to peel off....to leave.  
peep....bantam car, the son of a Jeep.  
peep show....stripped physical examination.  
perch....a sucker.  
Per diem hill....New Delhi, India.  
persuader....inertia starter switch.  
pick up your brass....get out of the way.  
pillow pigeons....bed bugs.  
pill rollers....enlisted men of Medical Corps.  
pilot....duty on the picket line in the cavalry.  
pineapple....hand grenade.  
pipeline....spaghetti.  
he got pipped....shot—or he got a packet.  
pitching a leave....mildly intoxicated.  
a plow jockey....mounted man in the cavalry.  
pocket lettuce....currency, sometimes called happy cabbage.  
police up....clean up generally, a good old army term that can mean picking up cigaret butts,

making your bed or shining your shoes.  
 ponton nickels....coupons good at the post exchange.  
 Popeye....spinach.  
 popsicle....motorcycle, also known as a puddle jumper.  
 to porpoise....land in a series of bounces.  
 posh....bright and polished.  
 post exchange....a general merchandise store—not a second hand lumber yard as rookies learn when they try to swap fence posts. Under orders, of course. Another bit of clean army fun.  
 a pot massager....helping the cook clean up. Excellent training for a soldier. Later on he will make some man a good wife.  
 pour on coal....give it more gas.  
 pour the good gulf to her....speed up the tank.  
 pozzy....jam.  
 in a prairie dog snarl....mine cables fouled.  
 prang....a plane crack-up which could have been avoided. The Order of the Prang is composed of pilots who lose planes through carelessness. Imaginary.  
 pressing blankets....sleep.  
 he made a pretty perch....good landing.  
 prodges....projectiles.  
 to promote....gain something by doubtful means, also to snitch or kipe.  
 propeller wash....a very unlikely story.  
 the ptomaine domain....the mess-hall.  
 pukka gen....the truth.  
 to pull guard duty....to do guard duty. For instance, "I've got to pull K. P."  
 to pull the rank on him....tell him who you are—a waste of time with M. P.'s.

punk....bread.  
 puttee....bandage.  
 P X....post exchange, a general store for soldiers.  
 PX me....send out my arrival or departure (air corps).

## Q

Q Company....recruit receiving center.  
 a quail roundup....army dance.  
 a quartermaster gait....a step longer than the 30 inch regulation pace. Saves shoes.  
 quiff....a young girl. Also known as a queen or quail.  
 a quirk....a flying student.  
 quit racing your motor....calm down.

## R

rabbit food....cole slaw, lettuce, celery.  
 rabbit fever....flinching when pulling trigger on firing range.  
 in Rachel....in high gear.  
 R.A.F....Royal Air Force.  
 raincoat chevrons....great fun on rainy days to send a rookie out to locate some.  
 rake....comb.  
 ranked out....forced to relinquish to a senior.  
 rate happy....a recently promoted non-commissioned officer full of authority.  
 rat race....mounted review.  
 rat trap....anti-aircraft barrage.  
 raunchy....anything in bad condition.  
 a read-off....a prisoner's sentence read to him at a formation—also a bawling out by an officer.  
 a Rebel....a Southern girl.  
 Red legs....Field Artillery soldier.  
 red nose....shrapnel.

red lined....pay held up for a month.  
 to reed up....to re-enlist.  
 to re-enlist bunk....gently tuck covers in place to avoid re-making.  
 a refugee....a raw recruit.  
 refugees from a self-defense factory....lately arrived selectees who had been deferred by the draft boards. Often called handcuff volunteers.  
 the regimental monkey....drum major.  
 ride the beam....assume innocence.  
 riding the sick boot....feigning illness.  
 Rise and Shine!....a cordial invitation to leave your bunk and greet the rosy dawn. Usually followed by, "Get the lead out of your pants!"  
 he got the rocker....said when a buck sergeant gets promoted to staff sergeant. It implies a staff sergeant does his work in a rocking chair.  
 everything is Roger....O K  
 roll up your flaps!....your discourse is most interesting and I should enjoy hearing more about it preferably at another time.  
 rooty medal....awarded for rooting in rations for many enlistments. Imaginary.  
 rubber cow....dilateable balloon.  
 rubber elephant....ballovet balloon.  
 rubber flag....sounds very logical for use on rainy days so rookie starts search. Even Majors have been known to suggest places to try. Rookie gets wet but smart.  
 rudily doo....not worth a damn.  
 run the guard....get in and out of camp without permission.

## S

sabotaged....German measles.  
 St. Vitus davenport....tank.

to salavate....to knock out.  
 salve....butter.  
 sand and specks....salt and pepper.  
 sand rat....soldier on duty back of rifle targets.  
 I'll fix him a sandwich....get even with him.  
 sanitation engineer....latrine orderly.  
 a Santa Claus in the pits....good target record.  
 a satchel....a fat boy.  
 the saw bones....army doctors.  
 a scramble....a dogfight. R.A.F.  
 the screen house....detention ward.  
 scrounge....pilfer.  
 a sea-going bell hop....a Marine.  
 a Sears and Roebuck Lieutenant....newly commissioned 2nd Lieutenant—also known as a shavetail.  
 see cum saw....I know how.  
 see the Chaplain!....I greatly regret that there is nothing I can do to assist you. Nor do I think of any department in the army to which to refer you with your irksome complaints. Being a gentleman, I hesitate to tell you to shut your face. So may I suggest that you see the Chaplain.  
 the self commencer....engine hand crank.  
 serum....a slug of liquor.  
 sewer trout....white fish.  
 a shack....a soldier's sweetheart.  
 shackles....stew.  
 a shack man....a married soldier.  
 shack stripe....the staff sergeant's extra stripe on sleeve. It permits him to keep a house or shack off the post.  
 shell shoveller....inserts shell and pushes into breech.  
 shell twister....puts shell in fuse cutter.  
 shimmy pudding....jello.  
 shinos....khaki uniforms.  
 shivering Liz....Jello again.  
 shoot a line....boasting.



a short circuit between the ear phones  
 . . . . a mental lapse.  
 short stopping . . . . stopping a plate in  
 transit to a soldier and taking off  
 food.  
 shot down in flames . . . . jilted by the  
 girl friend.  
 a shot put . . . . a hand grenade.  
 pass the shrapnel . . . . grape nuts.  
 a shutter-bug . . . . aerial photogra-  
 pher.  
 pass the side arms . . . . sugar and  
 cream.  
 side meat . . . . well pleased.  
 pass the side slip . . . . bread and butter.  
 a silent pianist . . . . typist.  
 silver platters . . . . destroyers.  
 a sinker . . . . down draft of wind.  
 a six and 20 tootsie . . . . oomph girl  
 —a date means over-staying leave  
 with resultant loss of six merits and  
 added penalty of 20 hours in the  
 bull pen.  
 skirmish line . . . . rookies try to lo-  
 cate six feet of it—irrepressible army  
 humor.  
 skirt patrol . . . . looking for dames.  
 sky hooks . . . . hooks onto a cloud to  
 hold targets for anti-aircraft guns.  
 When ordered to locate some,  
 rookie should keep a straight face  
 and go over to the library for the  
 afternoon.  
 a sky winder . . . . member of air force.  
 a slacker . . . . a pal who won't enter-  
 tain another girl so you can be alone  
 with your girl friend.  
 a slick . . . . soldier dressed for date.  
 slig . . . . goop. Meaning Sucker, Low-  
 brow, Idiot and Good-will-buster.  
 sling shot . . . . 45 cal. pistol.  
 slipping the clutch . . . . criticizing.  
 slum . . . . army stew.  
 slum burner . . . . cook.  
 I smell a dead rabbit . . . . inelegant  
 reference to body odor.  
 pass the smelling salts . . . . onions.  
 S M R L H . . . . Soldier's Mail, Rush  
 Like Hell.

snafu . . . . situation normal—normal  
 being all balled up.  
 a snake ranch . . . . a bar.  
 snap-snap . . . . on the double.  
 snore sack . . . . sleeping bag.  
 snow bunny . . . . a beginner in the ski  
 troops.  
 a snow job . . . . extreme prevarication.  
 snow me . . . . tell me something cheer-  
 ful even if untrue.  
 a Snuffy . . . . member of the awkward  
 squad.  
 Soap Suds Row . . . . the non-commis-  
 sioned officer's homes with the  
 clothes line landscaping.  
 social security . . . . garters.  
 soft legs . . . . WACs.  
 soft soaper . . . . pen to write girl  
 friend.  
 S O L . . . . sure out of luck—for ex-  
 ample, trying to fold a pup tent in  
 the wind.  
 S O S . . . . same old stew.  
 to sound off . . . . to speak up.  
 a soup job . . . . a speedy plane.  
 the spiff bar . . . . local beer garden.  
 a spiggoty . . . . a native of the banana  
 countries—"me no spiggoty eeng-  
 leesh."  
 spin it . . . . retire.  
 Spits . . . . RAF planes.  
 spittoon . . . . steel helmet.  
 a spoof . . . . cigaret.  
 spooning up . . . . polishing up the  
 shoes and buttons.  
 spud call . . . . invitation to participate  
 in the kitchen activities.  
 going on a splursh . . . . going on ma-  
 neuvers.  
 a squeecker . . . . a pigeon.  
 the squinter . . . . gunner corporal who  
 looks through sights.  
 the squirrel cage . . . . consultation  
 room of an army psychoanalyst.  
 take on another stack . . . . re-enlist.  
 stag . . . . sentry duty.  
 a star gazer . . . . the General's orderly.  
 the starvation seat . . . . last seat at ta-  
 ble.

station master . . . . commanding officer at air field.  
 a steel helmet . . . . a bedpan.  
 to stick your nose in the trough . . . . to dine.  
 stinko . . . . whimsical term to describe one who has imbibed strong liquor to excess.  
 stocks and bonds . . . . toilet tissue.  
 stooging . . . . cruising in plane.  
 stove pipe . . . . trench mortar.  
 to strafe . . . . to punish.  
 strawberries . . . . prunes.  
 strictly cut plug . . . . well pleased.  
 stuffed cloud . . . . mountain concealed by clouds.  
 stukas . . . . Georgia mosquitoes.  
 a submarine . . . . a bedpan.  
 the sucker list . . . . roster.  
 a sugar report . . . . letter from the girl friend.  
 the super-duper . . . . directional height finder for anti-aircraft.  
 Superman drawers . . . . long woollens.  
 survey . . . . trade old for new or telling the messman to survey (refill) an empty bowl.  
 a super-doooper . . . . airplane listening device.  
 suitcase drill . . . . packing for a fur-lough.  
 swampseed . . . . rice.  
 to sweat . . . . to expect.  
 sweat it out . . . . make an intensive search for a lost article even though previous search has been made.  
 swinging the lead . . . . shirking.  
 sympathy checks . . . . counsel from the Chaplain.

## T

take the foot locker out of your mouth . . . . say what you mean.  
 tail skid . . . . lamb chops.  
 take off . . . . leave.  
 got a take off . . . . got bawled out.  
 tangle in the soup . . . . lost in fog.  
 a Tanker . . . . the Tank Corps.

a tar heel . . . . a Southern soldier.  
 taxi up . . . . come up here.  
 tea cakes . . . . hardtack.  
 Teak . . . . O. K., fine. (India).  
 tell it to the Marines . . . . O yeah?  
 ten o'clock duty . . . . a soft detail.  
 tent stretcher . . . . a rookie has to learn.  
 changing tack . . . . using new maneuvers on girl friend.  
 termites . . . . radio personnel.  
 that stuff's got to come to a focus . . . . cease the idle chit chat and get to the point, or show results.  
 a three point landing . . . . ham and eggs.  
 three seventy . . . . a day's wages. It refers to three meals and seventy cents in cash.  
 a three striped private . . . . newly made sergeant.  
 threw the book at him . . . . unlucky soldier is put on every detail.  
 Third Lieutenant . . . . Sergeant.  
 a thirty-year-man . . . . plans to retire after thirty years and live on retirement pay.  
 throttle twisters . . . . motorcycle riders.  
 thumbs up . . . . O. K.  
 got my ticket . . . . discharge.  
 tin drawers . . . . cowlings on wheels or fenders.  
 a tin ear . . . . slow code receiver.  
 tin hat . . . . steel helmet.  
 tire patches . . . . pancakes.  
 Titeems . . . . the British tea time you know, so I must pop off. Cheerio and all that jolly rot.  
 Tommy . . . . Thompson sub-machine gun.  
 toot . . . . money.  
 toothpick village . . . . new type wooden barracks.  
 top dog . . . . the center of attention.  
 the Top Kick . . . . First Sergeant. Also Top Knocker.  
 torps . . . . torpedoes.  
 torture hats . . . . gas masks.  
 a tough row of buttons to shine . . . . hard job.

trainasium . . . . pipe structure for  
 physical exercises, sometimes called  
 a monkey cage.  
 pass the transfusion . . . . ketchup.  
 a T S . . . . a tough situation.  
 tub . . . . scout car.  
 turkey . . . . the meat course, even if  
 it's hash.  
 a Turks Head McGurk . . . . Coast Ar-  
 tilleryman skilled in tying knots.  
 the turrethead . . . . director of tank  
 movement.  
 a twenty per cent man . . . . usurious  
 money lender.  
 two dots and a dash . . . . fried eggs  
 and bacon.  
 two legged mavericks . . . . privates.  
 type C . . . . canned rations issued for  
 maneuvers.

## U

underground balloon corpse . . . .  
 where a dissatisfied soldier can trans-  
 fer and find ideal conditions. Imagi-  
 nary.  
 have to brush my underwear . . . . get  
 ready for inspection.

## V

vackie . . . . evacuee.  
 vampire . . . . hospital orderly who  
 draws blood for testing.  
 victory girls . . . . 'teen age girls who  
 are khaki-wacky.  
 a vulture . . . . a semi-trained pilot.

## W

wads . . . . cakes.  
 Wahoo . . . . Hawaii.  
 the wailing wall . . . . the Chaplain's  
 office.  
 the Waldorf . . . . the mess hall.  
 a walkie-talkie . . . . a portable radio.

walking dandruff . . . . cooties. Also  
 known as seam squirrels.  
 the water scorcher . . . . cook.  
 the ward mama . . . . hospital nurse.  
 hanging the wash . . . . flunked air ca-  
 det hangs a clothespin on a line in  
 the mess hall to denote he has his  
 wash out—or dismissal.  
 a washtub ride . . . . test flight with  
 commanding officer. The plane  
 chosen is known as the washtub and  
 failure is a washout.  
 watch that stuff . . . . take it easy.  
 the weather krock . . . . the meteorolo-  
 gist.  
 wet canteen . . . . beer on sale.  
 When does the balloon go up? . . . .  
 when does the big show start?  
 a whistle jerk . . . . acting corporal.  
 white eyed . . . . passed out.  
 white money . . . . silver coins.  
 a wimpie . . . . a hamburger.  
 to win something . . . . to steal some-  
 thing.  
 he's in a wind up . . . . dizzy.  
 winterized tents . . . . squad tents  
 equipped with wooden walls, floors  
 and stoves.  
 wire city . . . . the dear old jail.  
 plenty of woodle . . . . the girl has  
 loads of charm.  
 wolf call . . . . Hi'Ya, Babel!  
 wood butcher . . . . carpenter.  
 Who pulled your chain? . . . . cour-  
 teous retort implying that the fel-  
 low is a monkey.

## Y

a Y B . . . . a yard bird, a misfit.  
 a yard bird . . . . soldier restricted to  
 limited area—a disciplinary meas-  
 ure.  
 a yard engine . . . . an officer's daugh-  
 ter.  
 a Yehudi . . . . a wild rumor.  
 yellow legs . . . . cavalryman.  
 yellow nose . . . . high explosives.

You can stay but that stuff's gotta go  
.... lay off the boasting.

You have found a home .... used by  
colored boys towards a member who  
is getting on O.K. and seems to like  
army life.

Z

Zeppelins in a fog .... sausage and  
mashed potatoes.

zebras .... non-commissioned officers.

zip .... syrup.

Zombie .... dumb soldier.



# NAVY SLANG

## A

**A A F** . . . . Atlantic Amphibious Force  
(combination of First Marine Division and an Army Division).

**the Admiral's mate** . . . . an egotistical sailor.

**an Admiral's watch** . . . . a sound sleep.  
**to go aft** . . . . to the rear.

**an Airedale** . . . . naval aviation recruit.

**an Aleutianatic** . . . . not yet adjusted  
to normal duty.

**all hands** . . . . means everybody with-  
in hearing.

**alligator** . . . . amphibious tank.

**amidships** . . . . the middle or center.

**the anchor man** . . . . gets the lowest  
grades in classes.

**angel juice** . . . . water.

**A O L** . . . . absent over leave. Probably  
delayed by a brunette, tch tch. Or a  
blonde, tch tch tch. Or a red head,  
tch tch tch. That's terrible. By the  
way, what's her phone number?

**the Arctic boat** . . . . a refrigeration  
ship which carries the meat.

**the armory** . . . . gun maintenance shop  
aboard ship.

**ash can** . . . . a depth charge of high  
explosive intended for a submarine.

**ashore** . . . . where sailors meet girls?

**the A squad** . . . . the awkward squad  
where beginners begin.

**astern** . . . . the rear.

**A to N** . . . . study book for enlisted  
men. Excellent to hold in front of  
face while dozing.

**awash** . . . . barely above water.

**A W O L** . . . . absent without official  
leave. It takes a very good alibi to  
square this. If your grandmother  
wasn't really dead, you had better  
kill her.

**aye aye, sir** . . . . pronounced eye, eye.

A good, safe answer for anything.

It means, quite right, sir—just as  
you say, sir—very good, sir. You  
can have your way now, sir, and  
I'll have mine when I am alone, by  
Gad, sir.

## B

**baffle painting** . . . . ship camouflage;  
also known as dazzle daubed.

**B and W** . . . . bread and water.

**a baluke** . . . . a dopey gob.

**a balute** . . . . pronounced bal loot'. A  
Philippine egg before it is hatched.  
That's the way they eat them over  
there, no kidding.

**bare navy** . . . . canned food only.

**a barnacle** . . . . someone you can't lose.

**a bar of B O** . . . . soap.

**a battlegwagon** . . . . a battleship or  
dreadnaught.

**a BCD** . . . . bad conduct record.

**barber bait** . . . . recruits.

**the beach** . . . . ashore anywhere. When  
a sailor is on the beach for keeps it  
means that he is through with the  
sea.

**the bean rag** . . . . pennant flown at  
mess time.

**bear a hand** . . . . let's have a little help.

**beating the gums** . . . . idle chit chat or  
gossip aboard ship. Also referred to  
as pounding the ivory, knashing the  
choppers or chipping the pickets.

**beef boat** . . . . supply ship.

**beeno** . . . . there will beeno moving  
pictures tonight; there will beeno  
liberty.

**belay** . . . . knock off whatever you are  
doing.

**bells** . . . . clocks are out in the Navy.  
Bells are sounded to tell time. It's  
simple. 2 bells mean 1 o'clock or 5  
o'clock or 9 o'clock. All you have to  
do is figure out whether it is A.M.  
or P.M.

Here's the facts:

12.30 a. m.	1 bell.	a bell tapper . . . . a sailor who is slow to man his post.
1. a. m.	2 bells.	below . . . . any place below the top deck.
1.30 a. m.	3 bells.	the bends . . . . acute pains a diver gets if hoisted to the surface too rapidly.
2. a. m.	4 bells.	berth . . . . where the ship drops anchor.
2.30 a. m.	5 bells.	the Big Ticket . . . . honorable discharge.
3. a. m.	6 bells.	bilge . . . . the cellar of the ship.
3.30 a. m.	7 bells.	bilge water . . . . bragging or nonsense.
4. a. m.	1 bell.	the binnacle list . . . . the sick list.
4.30 a. m.	2 bells.	a bird boat . . . . aircraft carrier.
5. a. m.	3 bells.	the black gang . . . . the engineer's force.
5.30 a. m.	4 bells.	bleat in the ear . . . . relate hard luck.
6. a. m.	5 bells.	a blow . . . . storm.
6.30 a. m.	6 bells.	to blow the grampus . . . . to accidentally spill a bucket of water on a fellow you don't like.
7. a. m.	7 bells.	blue room . . . . cell in brig.
7.30 a. m.	8 bells.	to board . . . . to mount or scale. Gobs board busses or horses or mountains.
8. a. m.	1 bell.	boat falls . . . . ropes and pulleys.
8.30 a. m.	2 bells.	boat hook . . . . long pole with a hook on the end.
9. a. m.	3 bells.	"Boats" . . . . bos'n's mate.
9.30 a. m.	4 bells.	boatswain . . . . pronounced Bo'sn. An officer who directs the deck crew.
10. a. m.	5 bells.	a boatswain's chair . . . . still pronounced Bo'sn. A board seat with rope supports.
10.30 a. m.	6 bells.	on the books . . . . on the paymaster's records.
11. a. m.	7 bells.	a boot . . . . a newly enlisted sailor.
11.30 a. m.	8 bells.	a boot camp . . . . naval training station ashore where recruit gets six weeks of preliminary training.
Noon	1 bell.	boot topping . . . . marine paint which serves as protective coating.
12.30 p. m.	2 bells.	bottom . . . . outside of ship underneath.
1. p. m.	3 bells.	bound . . . . headed for.
1.30 p. m.	4 bells.	the bow . . . . pronounced as if spoken by a dog. Front of ship.
2. p. m.	5 bells.	the bow man . . . . sits in front end of boat. Jumps out on landing and ties up.
2.30 p. m.	6 bells.	
3. p. m.	7 bells.	
3.30 p. m.	8 bells.	
4. p. m.		
4.30 p. m.		
5. p. m.		
5.30 p. m.		
6. p. m.		
6.30 p. m.		
7. p. m.		
7.30 p. m.		
8. p. m.		
8.30 p. m.		
9. p. m.		
9.30 p. m.		
10. p. m.		
10.30 p. m.		
11. p. m.		
11.30 p. m.		
Midnight		

**the brass** . . . . gold stripes on an Officer's sleeve.  
**breaker** . . . . emergency drinking water and rations.  
**break out** . . . . to take out or open up.  
 A gob breaks out his money, cigars, gear, playing cards and all things else. A salty term as old as the Navy.  
**a brick** . . . . a muscular girl who won't stand any friendly fooling.  
**the brig** . . . . a steel compartment aboard ship where a sailor can be alone with his thoughts. You guessed it—the jail.  
**brig-bait** . . . . involuntary virgins under legal age.  
**a brigtimer** . . . . a prisoner.  
**brightwork** . . . . metalwork on ship which must be polished.  
**a broken striper** . . . . a Chief Warrant Officer.  
**a brown bagger** . . . . married man. Sometimes called a commutator.  
**a brown nose** . . . . an officer's favorite.  
**Brown's mixture** . . . . passed out freely at the dispensary for coughs.  
**"Bugs"** . . . . a bugler.  
**a bulkhead** . . . . known as a wall to landlubbers.  
**the bumwad** . . . . home town newspaper. Also called the bugle or bladder.  
**bundockers** . . . . field shoes.  
**busted** . . . . demoted or disgraced.  
**a buzzard** . . . . eagle insignia on sleeve.

## C

**the cabin** . . . . the Captain's stateroom.  
**to calk off** . . . . to sleep.  
**a canary** . . . . a beautiful, glamorous girl with long eyelashes and soft, red lips, with an affectionate disposition, very soft and cuddly and warm. Gosh, I wonder if I could get liberty this afternoon.  
**C. and S.** . . . . clean and sober.  
**the canteen** . . . . retail store aboard ship.

**the captain of the head** . . . . a doubtful honor conferred on a sailor when appointed to paint and clean in the washroom.  
**the captain of the hold** . . . . a title given an enlisted man while temporarily in charge of cleaning up the hold, issuing paint and brushes, etc.  
**the captain's writer** . . . . enlisted man serving as secretary to the Captain.  
**casemate** . . . . gun compartment.  
**catapult** . . . . heaves aircraft skywards.  
**cat fever** . . . . catarrhal or acute fever.  
**to catch the tide** . . . . seize the opportunity.  
**channel sickness** . . . . home sickness.  
**Chaplain duty** . . . . consoling a cry baby.  
**the Chaplain's mate** . . . . a sympathetic sailor. A gentle soul.  
**Charlie Noble** . . . . a model, mythical sailor. Also, the galley smokestack.  
**cheap liberty** . . . . to gaze longingly at the shore through binoculars.  
**a Chicago piano** . . . . multiple anti-aircraft gun.  
**a chicken** . . . . a young recruit.  
**chicken farm** . . . . sailors always dream of owning a chicken and egg farm upon retirement.  
**Chico** . . . . Philippino.  
**Chief** . . . . chief petty officer.  
**a chipping hammer** . . . . for chipping paint and barnacles off the ship.  
**Chips** . . . . name for the carpenter's mate. Sometimes called Nails.  
**a chit** . . . . official order on storeroom.  
**cigar box fleet** . . . . landing craft carrying infantry, vehicles and small tanks to the beach.  
**clay pigeons** . . . . Navy scout plane for catapulting.  
**clews** . . . . ropes which support the hammocks in which the sailors sleep at night. Sailors sleep in hammocks, my dear. Really. Didn't you know? Yes, and in their underwear, too. Isn't that adorable.  
**The Club** . . . . USO centers.

**he coiled up his ropes** . . . . passed on.  
**he told him cold** . . . . with absolute  
 finality.  
**collision mats** . . . . waffles or hot cakes.  
**comeshaw** . . . . gift of Navy owned  
 goods.  
**commissary bullets** . . . . beans.  
**a compartment** . . . . in a hotel it would  
 be a room.  
**companionways** . . . . hallways.  
**the course** . . . . in a meadow it would  
 be a cowpath.  
**covered wagon** . . . . aircraft carrier,  
 also a flat-top.  
**cow grease** . . . . butter.  
**Coxswain** . . . . pronounced Kox'en.  
 Head man on a small boat.  
**a coxswain of the plow** . . . . kox'en.  
 A raw sailor from the farm.  
**to crab** . . . . complain.  
**a crow** . . . . a female ashore who lacks  
 pulchritude.  
**a crow or bird on arm** . . . . a rate.  
**crapping out** . . . . sleeping during  
 work hours, or shooting craps.  
**crop dusters** . . . . Cal-Aero school  
 training planes.  
**a cruise** . . . . a term of enlistment.  
**C S C** . . . . Continuous Service Certifi-  
 cate. At the end of a career in the  
 Navy they give you your official rec-  
 ord set down in a small book. It  
 shows where you have been all your  
 life.  
**the cut of his jib** . . . . looks of a sailor.  
**a cutthroat** . . . . overly ambitious sail-  
 or, also called a number jumper.

## D

**D and D** . . . . drunk and dirty.  
**to darken ship** . . . . cut all lights which  
 would reveal presence of ship.  
**the deck** . . . . floor.  
**a deck ape** is a seaman . . . . lay in  
 some arnica and a slice of raw beef  
 before using it, however.  
**a decoy** . . . . a fine looking sailor. Girls  
 are attracted by his manliness. This

gives you a chance to get acquainted  
 and explain some of the more cul-  
 tural aspects of the Navy, you  
 slicker!

**deep sea turkey** . . . . salmon.  
**a discharge gratuity** . . . . a man who  
 is discharged for inaptitude is given  
 a civilian suit of clothes and some  
 cash to help him along.  
**ditty box** . . . . for keepsakes.  
**do a bunk** . . . . make a fast getaway  
 from an embarrassing situation.  
**Dobel's gargle** . . . . regularly dispensed  
 for sore throats.  
**"Doc"** . . . . a pharmacist's mate.  
**a dodo** . . . . a coquette who will not  
 accept the old age pension.  
**doozy** . . . . easy; agreeable.  
**doping off** . . . . doing indifferent work.  
**a dough puncher** . . . . a baker, also  
 known as "Dough-head."  
**take an overland draft** . . . . desertion.  
**she's a drag** . . . . she is here with an  
 escort.  
**dragging anchor** . . . . to take the wife  
 along.  
**dream sack** . . . . hammock.  
**dress blues** . . . . the best suit. Kept to  
 go ashore.  
**dress whites** . . . . same thing for the  
 tropics.  
**dress ship** . . . . on legal holidays flags  
 are strung from masts and rigging.  
**drift around** . . . . kill time.  
**duff** . . . . anything edible and sweet.  
**dummy run** . . . . dress rehearsal.  
**a dynamo buster** . . . . electrician.

## E

**E** . . . . painted on a stack signifies ex-  
 cellent work of engineering crew.  
 When painted on a turret it means  
 a great gun crew.  
**an eager beaver** . . . . lad in classroom  
 who knows right answer first, and  
 shows up his classmates. Cordially  
 unpopular.  
**eager beaver** . . . . a compliment when



meaning a WAVE. They command admiration for their alertness.  
**the day the eagle screams** . . . . pay-day.  
**an ear flopper** . . . . over eager to please officers.  
**going East** . . . . assigned to duty on the Atlantic seaboard. Going to the coast means duty on the Pacific coast.  
**84** . . . . well-known Navy prison on Mare Island.  
**Ensign** . . . . newly commissioned officer from Annapolis.  
**EPD** . . . . extra police duty and police duty means scrubbing, polishing, etc.  
**the Exec** . . . . the Executive Officer who runs the ship under the Captain's supervision.  
**to extend the enlistment** . . . . let it run on past term signed for.

## F

**to make fast** . . . . tie it up.  
**a fat lip** . . . . a sock in the puss.  
**a feather** . . . . a leak of steam from the boiler safety valve.  
**a feather merchant** . . . . a Naval Reservist, sometimes called a "Reverse."  
**a Femmy** . . . . a flirtatious girl—easy to know and hard to forget.  
**field day** . . . . clean and polish day.  
**fire and fall back** . . . . state your case and be brief.  
**fire and rescue party** . . . . sailors assigned to the fire department.  
**first luff** . . . . the First Lieutenant.  
**fish** . . . . a torpedo.  
**a five for sixer** . . . . money lender aboard ship.  
**Flags** . . . . the signal quartermaster.  
**flaked out** . . . . reclining on back.  
**flashed his hash** . . . . sea sickness, retching.  
**a flivver** . . . . a small destroyer.  
**a flying coffin** . . . . a PBV Navy patrol bomber.

**a floating coffin** . . . . a poor boat.  
**foo foo** . . . . perfume.  
**a forecastle lawyer** . . . . a gob who professes to know all Navy regulations.  
**48** . . . . widely known Navy prison in the Philippines.  
**go forward** . . . . towards the front of the ship.  
**all fouled up** . . . . messed up.  
**four-oh** . . . . 4-O, means perfect, O. K., tops.  
**a four stacker** . . . . old U S destroyer.  
**a four striper** . . . . Captain.  
**French leave** . . . . to leave the ship without permission.  
**a fresh water wrench** . . . . fun to send a recruit after.  
**funnels** . . . . smokestacks.  
**furlough** . . . . liberty exceeding 72 hours.

## G

**the galley** . . . . the ship's kitchen.  
**a galley rumor** . . . . widespread rumor without foundation.  
**gallots** . . . . eggs.  
**Gangway** . . . . make way for a sailor.  
**GCM** . . . . General Court Marshal. The highest Navy court.  
**gear** . . . . tools; knife and fork; your clothes; most everything.  
**gedunk** . . . . ice cream sodas, etc.  
**gig** . . . . the Captain's private boat.  
**a gilgadget** . . . . a gilhickey or a gimmick or a gadget. Anything which eludes a sailor's descriptive powers.  
**a gilligen hitch** . . . . an imaginary knot in an imaginary rope.  
**give a fair wind** . . . . pass the butter.  
**give it the deep six** . . . . toss overboard.  
**a gob** . . . . a familiar name for a sailor. Either sailor or gob are O. K. Just don't call me a Jack Tar, honey, because that gets me.  
**going over** . . . . going ashore.  
**going dogging** . . . . Wine, Women and Song.

**the Gold Braid** . . . . Commissioned Officers.  
**gone native** . . . . a sailor overfriendly with the natives at foreign ports.  
**goo goos** . . . . natives of the Philippines.  
**Gooks** . . . . South Sea natives.  
**gooney gals** . . . . young native girls.  
**gouge** . . . . to cheat.  
**grass** . . . . lettuce, asparagus, etc.  
**gravity tank** . . . . water receptable.  
**grease** . . . . to give present to superiors.  
**grease down** . . . . table etiquette for pass the butter.  
**the greasepot** . . . . the cook.  
**green weinie** . . . . anything bad.  
**to gripe** . . . . complain.  
**a gull** . . . . a girl ashore who has lost her amateur standing.  
**a gulpin** . . . . someone you don't like.  
**gundecking** . . . . pretending intoxication.  
**gunk** . . . . dissolves oil from the ship's sides.  
**"Guns"** . . . . gunner's mate.  
**a Gymnascutus** . . . . a ship's mascot found in foreign lands. It has legs shorter on one side than the other enabling it to walk decks in rough weather. Imaginary.  
**a gyrene** . . . . a Marine; also known as a Leatherneck and a sea-going bell-hop.

## H

**a hack driver** . . . . chief petty officer.  
**to hail** . . . . a very nautical term meaning hello.  
**"hammock happy"** . . . . recovering from a stretch in the brig.  
**hammock ladder** . . . . imaginary accessory used to baffle recruits.  
**hammock** . . . . a sailor's downy couch aboard ship. A piece of canvas hung up at night and rolled up in the daytime. It saves messing around with bedsteads and springs and mattresses

and pillows. A new recruit finds sleeping in a hammock as simple as riding an outlaw horse in a rodeo, with the exception that a deck is harder than ground.  
**a hangfire** . . . . a shot which doesn't go off.  
**hanging fire** . . . . pending.  
**a hard nose** . . . . refers to an officer who doesn't get along with enlisted men.  
**hardtack** . . . . emergency rations.  
**hash marks** . . . . service stripes.  
**hatch** . . . . doorway.  
**down the hatch** . . . . a signal for the stomach to brace itself against an incoming slug of rum.  
**have legs** . . . . speed it.  
**hawser** . . . . an immense rope used to tie up the ship.  
**head** . . . . lavatory.  
**heave in sight** . . . . to appear in the distance.  
**"heave out and lash up"** . . . . "Come, gentlemen, promptly arise or you'll miss the gorgeous sunrise, and be so good as to put the hammocks away neatly. Thank you. Lovely morning, isn't it?"  
**the Hell cats** . . . . the bugle corps.  
**a high fog** . . . . the usual unusual California weather.  
**Hi Mac, where you from?** . . . . greeting extended to new arrivals at a naval training station.  
**hit the beach** . . . . ashore on leave.  
**hit the pavement** . . . . go ashore.  
**hit the sack** . . . . sleep.  
**the home port** . . . . where the ship bases.  
**a homeward-bound pennant** . . . . flown on the homeward voyage after an extended foreign cruise. It is made by the crew and is a foot long for each member.  
**the honey barge** . . . . comes alongside for garbage.  
**to put in a hop** . . . . befuddled.  
**H P H** . . . . high paid help, spoken of

petty officers with extra shore allowances.  
a horse fly . . . . a sailor who is fickle about women and not very choosy.  
Houligan navy . . . . Coast Guard.  
git a hump on you . . . . speed up.  
have you got a hump on you? . . . . stake me to a cigaret.

## I

inactive duty . . . . Naval Reserve or fleet reserve.  
infantry . . . . walking Hell.  
an infantryman . . . . a blisterfoot.  
Irish pennants . . . . sloppy loose ends which should be tucked in.  
iron man . . . . trophy won in athletics.  
isolation ward . . . . hospitalization for contagious diseases.

## J

Jack . . . . friendly buildup for a sailor.  
Used prior to a touch by a panhandler.  
a jack ladder . . . . hemp ladder thrown over side of ship.  
a smokestack jag . . . . feigning intoxication after two beers. Practiced by very young recruits to convince themselves that they are old salts.  
Jimmylegs . . . . master at arms. A sort of cop.  
Joe Gish . . . . any sailor.  
jo pot . . . . coffee urn.  
the joy ride . . . . trip to the naval hospital in an ambulance.  
to jump ship . . . . go ashore without leave.

## K

kanooing . . . . a sailor's recreation. He gets away from it all by hunting up a lake where they rent boats; rows all afternoon in the hot sun, falls overboard and has to be rescued.

the Katzenjammers . . . . the shakes the morning after.  
"Keys" . . . . storekeeper.  
a kick-out . . . . a dishonorable discharge often called a Yellow Ticket.

## L

ladder . . . . made of iron or rope and takes the place of stairs.  
a landlubber . . . . anybody who sleeps in a bed.  
what's the lash up? . . . . set-up or organization.  
late blast . . . . last call.  
lay aft on the fantail . . . . let's you and me fight.  
leave . . . . vacation.  
Leche . . . . fresh milk.  
leg . . . . one tack to windward or the distance and course covered in one tack.  
liberty . . . . shore leave under 48 hours.  
liberty card . . . . official approval card.  
liberty clothes . . . . the best dress blues.  
Gobs used to change into civilian clothes ashore but you get more now in a sailor suit.  
liberty hound . . . . a lad who tries to spend his enlistment ashore.  
a limey . . . . British sailor.  
line . . . . rope.  
liquid lightning . . . . Okulehau, pronounced o koo'ly how. Sugar cane and rice beverage made in Hawaii. Three drinks make you wicky wacky better than a native.  
locker . . . . a sailor's chest of drawers, chiffonier, bureau and clothes closet.  
log . . . . the ship's diary.  
loot bag . . . . small bag carried ashore.  
lucky bag . . . . store room for stray and miscellaneous articles.  
the Luff . . . . Lieutenant Junior Grade.

## M

"Mac" . . . . Hi yu', Mac? Where yu' from, Mac? Any sailor or Marine.

**the mail buoy** .... Navy humor. Raw recruits write letters all night to be posted in the mail buoy. Non-existent. A buoy is a floating object anchored in position to indicate channels or dangerous rocks, etc.

**man an oar** .... grab an oar. Man a broom, man a brush, same thing. Just plain work.

**man overboard** .... means a sailor took an involuntary bath in the ocean.

**Man-o'-war's man** .... \$2.00 word for a gob.

**mascot** .... live pets; dogs, cats, kangaroos, bears, snakes, leopards, white mice. Everything but cooties.

**called to the mast** .... this is the same thing as on report. It means a serious talk with the Captain about shortcomings—and I don't mean the Captain's.

**matey** .... often heard ashore. Hi Matey, could you stake the old man to a cup of coffee? How about a match, Matey? A dime wouldn't break you, would it, Matey?

**meal pennant** .... flown to indicate that the crew is busy with the knives and forks and no other work is being done.

**a meat ball** .... pennant flown to indicate excellence in some field. Often athletics.

**a member of the pal's club** .... a gob loose from the brig. An escape.

**mess** .... meals.

**mess gear** .... plates, knives, forks and spoons.

**midnight small stores** .... to borrow another's clothes from the line under cover of darkness.

**a military wedding** .... nuptials where the male parent wears fire-arms.

**misery hall** .... emergency dressing station.

**I've got the mokers** .... the blues; depressed.

**monkey drill** .... calisthenics.

**monkey island** .... small platform over bridge.

**mosquito boat** .... light boat, very speedy and equipped with small guns.

**a mothball** .... lad wearing first issue of clothing.

**muck up** .... clean up.

**the mud hook** .... the anchor.

**a musical Marine** .... member of the band.

**muster** .... roll call.

**mystery balls** .... meat balls.

## N

**a navy cocktail** .... castor oil gullupp-gullupp-gullupp UGH!

**the Navy Cross** .... awarded for honor and bravery.

**Navy Day** .... open house for land visitors. Teddy Roosevelt's birthday.

**a Neptune Certificate** .... given in ceremony on Equator.

**nitty** .... row or squabble.

## O

**an oil slick** .... streak left on surface by the exhaust of a submarine.

**the Old Man** .... the Captain or often referred to as the Skipper.

**omnibus boat** .... you ride to shore in it when you get liberty.

**one and a half striper** .... Lieutenant Junior Grade.

**one striper** .... an Ensign, the starting grade for Commissioned Officers.

**on report** .... means that you will have to explain to the Captain why you did something wrong.

**on the stock** .... suspense awaiting definite information.

**orderly** .... errand boy for an officer.

**ordinary seaman** .... seaman second class.

**ordnance** .... guns; ammunition, etc.

THE BROWN NOSE  
GOT IT STRAIGHT  
FROM THE HEAD,..  
WE HIT THE BEACH  
AT EIGHT BELLS ON  
A 72.

GOT ANY SMUKES?  
WE'LL SHOVE OFF  
AND GO DOGGING.

I KNOW A COUPLE  
OF GULLS IN  
A JITNEY-  
CREEP. TWO  
SMOOTH  
SMOOGING  
CANARIES

SLACK-  
OFF, HORSE-FLY.  
BEENO.



**O to Z**....study book for commissioned officers.  
**the outfit**....your Navy.  
**overnight liberty**....gives a gob a chance to sleep in a bed—that is, if he gets a chance to lie down.

## P

**paint**....first you put it on and then you chip it off.  
**painter**....ropes which tie a boat up.  
**a paluka**....sometimes called a gumbo. Not a pal.  
**your part of the ship**....a certain area reserved for you—to keep clean.  
**patrol**....sailors sent ashore to watch over gobs on liberty.  
**pea coat**....waist length heavy blue jacket. Gobs would rather freeze than wear them ashore.  
**a pelican**....a hearty eater.  
**peso**....pronounced pay so. Spanish dollar used in the banana countries at various rates of exchange.  
**a pharmacist's mate**....a cross between a sea-going druggist and a hospital orderly.  
**pie tickets**....a green recruit who wishes pie, must get pie tickets from the paymaster. Of course, the paymaster is out so the recruit starts a tour. Somewhere along the line comes a great awakening.  
**pig boats**....the submarines.  
**Pills**....a hospital steward.  
**a Pingpong**....a yeoman or clerical man.  
**pipe down**....be quiet.  
**pipe him aboard**....ancient Navy custom. The Boatswain's mate blows a shrill whistle in welcome.  
**a plank owner**....a sailor with continuous service on one ship assumes ownership rights. Of course, as tax payers, we all own our Navy, but you can't claim any one ship as

your very own. You know what I mean?  
**the plotting room**....where officers go into a huddle over maps and instruments.  
**a plowmaker's mate**....an awkward recruit.  
**pogey bait**....candy bars.  
**a politician**....avoids work by social manipulations.  
**a pollywog**....one who has not crossed the Equator on water.  
**porthole**....a ship's window.  
**port side**....left hand side.  
**pounding pitch**....deck duty which requires constant walking.  
**P-rade**....dress parade.  
**Priority No. 1**....sugar.  
**prize money**....bonus to gun crew for excellent marksmanship.  
**punk**....light bread.  
**a punt**....a raft enabling a sailor to paint the waterline of a vessel.

## Q

**the quarter deck**....the Captain's deck.  
**your quarters**....where you hang your hammock.  
**quills**....a yeoman or clerk.

## R

**the Radiator Club**....a gathering to gossip.  
**to rag a gob**....to razz him.  
**a rag picker**....signal man.  
**the rail squad**....seasick sailors executing an involuntary function of Nature.  
**the rake and pitch**....rolling and pitching of ship. Must be reckoned with in target practice.  
**here comes the rank**....Commissioned Officers.  
**your rate**....your position or the work you perform.

the ratey one . . . . the highest in rank.  
 rat's nest . . . . lower forward bunk  
     compartment.  
 a read-off . . . . prisoner's sentence read  
     publicly at mess, also a bawling out  
     by an officer.  
 the rear admiral . . . . the wife in the  
     back seat of the automobile—Gosh,  
     why can't she keep still? Or the  
     cute girl on the tandem seat of a  
     motorcycle. Are you all right back  
     there, darling?  
 red lead . . . . ketchup.  
 Red Mike . . . . a woman hater.  
 red rag . . . . the pennant flown dur-  
     ing meals.  
 reduction in rating . . . . demoted.  
 the regular Navy . . . . not the Fleet  
     Reserves, not the Coast Guard, not  
     the Naval Reserves, but the Navy,  
     you know, kid, THE NAVY.  
 release from confinement . . . . out of  
     the brig—Oh Boy, now to promote  
     liberty and a couple of beers and a  
     phone number or two.  
 restriction . . . . means stay on board  
     the ship because you were a bad  
     boy.  
 a retread . . . . a retired man called  
     back into service.  
 rewards . . . . fifty dollars for recovered  
     torpedoes and deserters and twenty-  
     five dollars for stragglers. Also,  
     virtue is its own reward. Well, I  
     guess I was thinking of something  
     else there.  
 feeling rhino . . . . sad, blue, discour-  
     aged and broke.  
 a ridge runner . . . . Southerner.  
 a ripe suck . . . . ripe sucker. An easy  
     mark spoiling to be taken.  
 a Ripple . . . . an enlisted WAVE.  
 Rocks and Shoals . . . . Navy rules and  
     regulations or what will happen to  
     you if you don't keep your nose  
     clean.  
 a rope yarn Sunday . . . . a half holi-  
     day, usually Wednesday afternoon.  
 a rubber gut . . . . a fat sailor.

## S

sack duty . . . . sleep. Slogan is "sighted  
     sack, sank in same."  
 to sack up . . . . go to bed.  
 a Sadie Thompson . . . . pneumatic  
     chipping hammer.  
 Sails . . . . a sailmaker's mate.  
 going salty . . . . recruit acting like an  
     old timer.  
 let go a salvo . . . . tell somebody off.  
 sand . . . . takes the place of scouring  
     powder.  
 sand and canvas . . . . to clean up.  
 sandpaper the anchor . . . . do unneces-  
     sary work.  
 a satchel . . . . a gob with a wide  
     mouth.  
 scarf . . . . a sailor's necktie.  
 scrambled eggs . . . . gold insignia on  
     officers' caps.  
 the scullery . . . . where the dishes are  
     bathed.  
 a scupper . . . . a lady of easy virtue.  
 scuppers . . . . holes which drain water  
     off the deck.  
 the scuttlebutt . . . . drinking fountain.  
 a scuttlebutt rumor . . . . anybody can  
     start one but you wouldn't recog-  
     nize it when it got back to you.  
 Seabees . . . . Naval Construction Bat-  
     talion.  
 sea dust . . . . salt.  
 sea going . . . . wise and experienced or  
     used to impress landlubbers.  
 a sea gull . . . . a flirtatious miss who  
     follows the fleet up and down the  
     coast from port to port. She is al-  
     ways hungry or needs new shoes.  
 seagull aboard . . . . chicken.  
 a sea lawyer . . . . always gives out ad-  
     vice about Navy regulations.  
 sea legs . . . . to get to feel at home  
     aboard ship.  
 sea pie . . . . stew with a crust.  
 sea sickness . . . . nausea caused by the  
     odor of frying pork chops while  
     you are swinging in a hammock on  
     a rolling ocean.

sea weed . . . . spinach.  
 secure . . . . knock off.  
 send a fish . . . . discharge a torpedo.  
 a 72 . . . . liberty ashore for 72 hours.  
 shake a leg . . . . speed up. Also known  
     as wicky-wicky, chop chop, mooeey  
     pronto or simply Git the lead out  
     of your leggins.  
 a shake down trip . . . . a trial cruise.  
 Shanghai . . . . to get a man transferred  
     to another ship against his inclina-  
     tion.  
 a sheep herder . . . . any landsman who  
     disagrees with you.  
 one sheet in the wind . . . . slightly  
     drunk.  
 three sheets in the wind . . . . quite  
     drunk.  
 a shellback . . . . anyone who has  
     crossed the Equator on the ocean.  
 shifting freckles . . . . cooties.  
 shin the chains . . . . to leave the ship  
     without permission.  
 to ship . . . . enlist.  
 to ship over . . . . to re-enlist.  
 the ship's paper . . . . newspaper pub-  
     lished aboard.  
 the ship's service store . . . . sells  
     watches, belts, gloves, etc.  
 the ship's store . . . . sells candy, soap  
     and cigars.  
 the ship's writer . . . . yeoman for the  
     Executive Officer.  
 shivering Liz . . . . Jello. In the snow  
     —means with cream.  
 to shoot the breeze . . . . exchange  
     superfluities.  
 let's shove off . . . . let's go places and  
     ring doorbells.  
 show a leg . . . . arise from your ham-  
     mocks, merry gentlemen, let noth-  
     ing you delay.  
 sick bay . . . . hospital aboard ship.  
 a sick-bay sailor . . . . becomes ill at  
     the mention of work.  
 side boys . . . . honor guard of greet-  
     ing.  
 the silver platters . . . . the destroyers.  
 Skibbies . . . . Japs.

skivvies . . . . long woolen drawers.  
 sky juice . . . . rain.  
 skylarking . . . . boondoggling.  
 slack off . . . . or simmer down; relax,  
     take it easy.  
 three sleeps ago . . . . three nights  
     ago.  
 a sleighride . . . . recounting imaginary  
     exploits.  
 sliding clothes . . . . wornout but saved  
     for dirty jobs.  
 slop chest . . . . receptacle used in port.  
     The honey barge collects it.  
 slop chute . . . . the garbage exit to the  
     ocean. Ashore it refers to a non-  
     descript beer joint.  
 slop shop . . . . galley.  
 Slushy . . . . the ship's cook.  
 a small beer . . . . an insignificant  
     fellow who acts important.  
 a smoke preventer . . . . a very useful  
     article aboard ship if you can just  
     get a recruit to locate one. The  
     trouble is that after they have gone  
     around to a dozen or so officers,  
     they get discouraged and start  
     thinking it's a gag.  
 a smoker . . . . entertainment with  
     prize fights or movies or vaude-  
     ville.  
 the smoking lamp is lit . . . . traditional  
     seagoing term meaning it is all  
     right to smoke.  
 smooging . . . . petting.  
 smuke locker . . . . pocketbook or mon-  
     eybelt.  
 smukes . . . . dollars.  
 snatch-holds . . . . a public dance hall.  
     Also called a jitney creep and a  
     race-track.  
 Sneaky Pete . . . . alcohol used for  
     mechanical purposes aboard ship.  
     Tastes awful even after a lemon  
     extract chaser.  
 "Snipe" . . . . fireman.  
 soojee . . . . soapy water.  
 sounding off . . . . speaking well of  
     yourself.  
 Sparks . . . . the wireless operator.



special liberty . . . . a trip ashore which  
 is not rated.  
 special money . . . . a draw on your  
 wages between paydays. Hard to  
 effect.  
 a speed run . . . . seeing town.  
 to spike the main brace . . . . take a  
 drink of water—or make me an  
 offer.  
 a spoon . . . . a pal in need.  
 spooning up . . . . spruce up the uni-  
 form.  
 a spud Cox'n . . . . peels potatoes.  
 a Square knot Admiral . . . . acting  
 petty officer in a training camp.  
 a squirrel's nest . . . . a lad who is nuts.  
 Stamps . . . . the mail orderly.  
 to step off the plank . . . . to get  
 married.  
 straddle . . . . a shot which hits in front  
 of a target and skips over.  
 a straggler . . . . not a full fledged de-  
 serter but very much absent with-  
 out leave.  
 straight as a deck seam . . . . honest  
 and trustworthy.  
 "straight from the head" . . . . an idle  
 rumor.  
 take a strain . . . . pull hard.  
 to strike . . . . try for promotion.  
 to stroke around . . . . go places ashore.  
 submarine ears . . . . slightly deaf.  
 shall we submerge . . . . board the sub-  
 way.  
 sun dodger . . . . a sailmaker.  
 swab . . . . an oversize mop.  
 swabo . . . . zero.  
 a swabbo . . . . a blank.  
 swacked . . . . now look here, officer,  
 he might have been a little illumi-  
 nated or soused or lit or even  
 crocked, binged, boiled, goofed  
 up, mellow, bleary-eyed, stinko,  
 rummed up, oiled, jagged, half-  
 seas-over, inebriated, drenched, sat-  
 urated or even intoxicated but he  
 certainly wasn't drunk.  
 swamp seed . . . . rice.  
 swing ship . . . . calibrate the compass.

## T

tailor made . . . . dress blues made by  
 a shore tailor.  
 take a blow . . . . a fireman leaves his  
 duties for a breath of fresh air.  
 take the zephyr . . . . leave quickly.  
 to take on stores . . . . load the ship  
 with supplies.  
 taking off . . . . speaking up angry like.  
 a tall water sailor . . . . has sailed every  
 ocean.  
 tarfu . . . . everything fouled up.  
 a three striper . . . . Commander.  
 throw a louse on him . . . . he's worse  
 than we are.  
 "thunder test" . . . . refers to physical  
 requirements in the draft; if you  
 can hear thunder, see lightning and  
 drink milk, you're accepted as fit  
 for duty. To be physically decrepit  
 enough for rejection would permit  
 two doctors to see each other by  
 peering into your ears.  
 tide-watch . . . . non-existing duty. The  
 first watch for a gullible boot.  
 a Tiffy . . . . goodlooking Navy nurse.  
 a tincus . . . . an habitual turf tamper.  
 topside . . . . the main deck.  
 top your boom . . . . shove off.  
 torps . . . . torpedoes.  
 trimming . . . . putting in extra hours  
 trying for promotion.  
 turf tamping . . . . impatiently await-  
 ing action.  
 turn to . . . . get on with the work.  
 turned to gold . . . . good conduct turns  
 the red enlistment sleeve stripes to  
 gold.  
 the Tuscarora . . . . a mythical ship  
 with ideal conditions. Had thirteen  
 decks, a straw bottom and rubber  
 smoke stacks. Talked about to test  
 the credulity of recruits.  
 going out on 20 . . . . retirement after  
 twenty years' service.  
 Tunnyfish . . . . physical instructors un-  
 der Gene Tunny's program.  
 a twidget . . . . a man.

a two-beer hasty....a respite from  
work, loafing.  
a two and a half striper....lieutenant  
commander.  
a two striper....a lieutenant.

## U

uncover....remove cap for haircut  
inspection.  
an Undetected Crime Medal....  
medal awarded for good conduct.  
undress uniforms....for hard work.  
No stripes on collars and without  
cuffs.  
up all hammocks....cheery words to  
awaken sailors to the day's new  
tasks. Hit the deck is another shout  
of encouragement that brings a gob  
up bright and early full of gaiety  
and jollity and renewed vigor—  
what brought this on?  
shall we up anchor....leave.

## V

a V-6....lad who joined Navy to  
escape draft.  
vessel man....pot washer.

## W

wacky....sometimes called an Asi-  
atic or a Shanghai. A gob who  
hasn't readjusted himself to ordi-  
nary duty.

a Wahini....a Honolulu maiden.  
a watch....usually four hours of  
duty.  
watch cap....black knitted stocking  
cap.  
"Wheels"....quartermaster.  
a wizard....a sailor who goes  
through a full cruise without being  
on report.  
a wolf....a gob after gals.  
wooden....dull.  
worms....macaroni.  
W. T. Door....gobs in China used  
to sign I O U's with the merchants  
over there and get credit. Instead  
of using their right names, they  
would sign W. T. Door. Years later  
the merchants discovered that W.  
T. Door was the abbreviation for  
water tight door, but it was fun  
while it lasted.

## Y

the Y....the marine Y M C A.  
a Y gun....a depth bomb thrower.  
a Yellow Perial....training plane.  
yippee boats....patrol boats.

## Z

zip....zero.  
Zoomies....pilot candidates.  
zoot suit....camouflaged Marine's  
outfit with knee length coat and  
spotted design like a Leopard.

# MARINE SLANG

## A

**an apple knocker** . . . a Marine who plays up to his superior officer.  
**armoured heifer** . . . canned milk.  
**an Asiatic** . . . a man who has spent much time on Asiatic stations. Relates thrilling tales on slight invitation. Ofttimes referred to as a man who missed too many boats.

## B

**bathtub sailors** . . . gobs on special duty who have never been on water.  
**battle pin** . . . necktie collar pin. More important than trousers as Marines sometimes lose their pants but never their morale or battle pin.  
**bear a hand** . . . give us a helping hand.  
**belly robber** . . . a cook. Also known as a slum burner.  
**blanco** . . . khaki colored cakes which dissolve for application to packs, cartridge belts and leggings.  
**blanket and freckles** . . . the makin's.  
**blimp** . . . a fat Marine.  
**blues** . . . the prize possession of every Marine. Tailored to measure with smoothly draped shoulders, narrow hips, high collars, white belts and gay trimmings. Mothers grow misty-eyed with pride, girls swoon, small boys look hungrily at the polished buttons and an invisible band plays *From the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli* when a Marine swaggers down the stem in BLUES!  
**boilermakers** . . . a Marine band.  
**boksok** . . . crazy or amuck. Stems from "tagalog," native Philippine dialect.  
**boogies** . . . Jap airmen.  
**boondockers** . . . field shoes.

**boondocks** . . . the wild back country; jungles, brush, forests, plains and deserts.  
**boot** . . . a raw Marine recruit. Also referred to as a yardbird.  
**boot-camp** . . . recruit training camp. Makes a man out of a mouse.  
**bright-work** . . . any shiny metal surface. It must really shine.  
**brig-rat** . . . a prisoner.  
**bucket of blood** . . . a tavern with a bad reputation.  
**bug bombs** . . . canned fog for killing insects in jungles.  
**a butcher** . . . a medical officer.

## C

**canned Willie** . . . canned beef.  
**captain of the head** . . . the Marine whose job it is to clean latrines.  
**cattle boat** . . . troop transport.  
**chaser** . . . prisoner guard.  
**chin music** . . . talking.  
**chipping the china** . . . complaining, beefing.  
**collision mats** . . . pancakes.  
**combat pack** . . . contains bare field necessities.  
**corking off** . . . relaxing or sleeping. Not always authorized.  
**cream on shingles** . . . creamed beef on toast.  
**cub** . . . anyone who has yet to cross the Arctic Circle.

## D

**deadhorse** . . . advance pay for foreign peacetime duty.  
**deck ape** . . . a Marine who sweeps and swabs the deck.  
**deep six** . . . bury something.  
**Ding How** . . . O. K. Stems from the Chinese.  
**ditty box** . . . small box for treasuring personal articles like girls' pictures.

**Doc** . . . name applied to Navy Corpsmen.  
**a dog face** . . . a soldier.  
**dog it down** . . . tie it down or rope it off.  
**dog robber** . . . an officer's orderly.  
**dopes off** . . . acts stupidly.  
**down** . . . to pass along as down the potatoes.  
**dragon back** . . . a Marine who has crossed the 180th Meridian.

## E

**an ear banger** . . . a yes man.  
**egg in your beer** . . . too much of a good thing.  
**an eightball** . . . a Marine slow on the pick-up creating confusion by causing others to run into him.

## F

**fan tail** . . . stern of a ship.  
**a feather merchant** . . . a Marine who sleeps too much. Also an undersized Marine who goes around saying "The bigger they are, the harder they fall."  
**field scarf** . . . necktie.  
**Fifi** . . . the current girl friend. Sometimes it might be her name.  
**fish eyes** . . . tapioca.  
**a flatfoot** . . . a Marine's classification of a sailor. Also known as a swabby.  
**fouled up** . . . mixed up, confused. Anything that is not exactly as it should be is fouled up to a Marine.  
**a 48** . . . two day leave. A rare article.  
**a foxhole** . . . it's your life, it's your coffin. You dig it for yourself to get away from the hot lead. It's your home, your castle, your yacht, your farm rolled into one shallow hole in the ground where you live . . . if you live.  
**a foxtail** . . . a small hand dust brush for cleaning inaccessible places. Marines are Hell on dirt. They clean

it out and polish where it was recently at.  
**frog sticker** . . . a bayonet.

## G

**galley** . . . kitchen.  
**gizmo** . . . when you need a word for something and cannot think of it in a hurry, it's a gizmo.  
**gloms** . . . hands.  
**glue pot** . . . a café, inn or spot that sells beer.  
**going up the pole** . . . going on the water wagon.  
**goldfish** . . . canned salmon.  
**gooks** . . . natives.  
**go-to-Hell hat** . . . garrison cap. Sometimes called the fore and aft hat or the over-seas cap.  
**grab-by-the-stacking-swivel** . . . to grab near the neck. The pronunciation takes longer than the action.  
**grass** . . . salad.  
**grease the pole** . . . start drinking alcoholic beverages.  
**greens** . . . winter service uniforms. Very comfortable in cool weather. Very uncomfortable in hot weather.  
**a Griffin** . . . a man on duty in the Asiatics less than a year.  
**gunny** . . . the gunnery sergeant. A good egg, but a thirty minute one.

## H

**a hand cuff volunteer** . . . a draftee.  
**hard money** . . . silver or copper coins.  
**hashmark** . . . one on the sleeve for each four years of service. Often called bean stripes. Very highly prized.  
**hay burner** . . . a horse.  
**head** . . . the latrine. If you think of the purpose of a ladies' powder room, you get the general idea.  
**hit the deck** . . . get ready for action. Tough proposition that needs ur-

gent attention or they wouldn't call the Marines.  
hit the silk . . . . use your parachute.  
honey cart . . . . garbage wagon.

## I

iron kelly . . . . steel helmet. Also used as a bucket and general utility container. Sometimes known as a tin derby.

## J

Jackson . . . . Marine's way of calling a soldier.  
jamoke . . . . coffee, also called Joe or mud.  
jawbone . . . . to buy without money. Credit.  
jock strap Marine . . . . athlete.  
Joe pot . . . . coffee pot. No Marine is completely equipped without one.

## K

khakis . . . . summer service uniform.  
knothead . . . . an unintelligent Marine.  
knucklehead . . . . a knuckle lower than a knothead.

## L

locker box . . . . wooden box issued for storing gear and clothing.  
lower the boom . . . . deliver a knock-out punch.  
to lay them in the aisles . . . . be popular with native girls.

## M

Maggie's drawers . . . . a red flag waved to indicate a miss on the firing range.  
maskee . . . . O. K.  
meat wagon . . . . ambulance.  
military . . . . a word to describe any-

thing tough or uncomfortable.  
Military wind, military bunk.  
Mustang . . . . an officer who came up through the ranks. None better.

## O

off and on . . . . off your fanny and on your feet. Oops, I'm sorry . . . I forgot this has to be published in a book. It means, "I say, old man, would you be good enough to elevate yourself from that comfortable sitting posture, and standing in a more or less military fashion for as brief a time as I can make it, I assure you."  
office hours . . . . it sounds harmless but it's bad. It is the preliminary trial before the Commanding Officer for an outline of your offense.  
old issue . . . . an elderly Marine.  
on the beach . . . . liberty ashore.  
on the double . . . . in a hurry. Typical of Marine Corps action.  
a one brew guy . . . . a light drinker.  
over the fence . . . . to take liberty when restricted to camp.  
over the hump . . . . to retire after 30 years of service.

## P

Padre . . . . Chaplain. Also called Holy Joe.  
pearl diver . . . . a Marine attached to kitchen police duty who washes dishes.  
pick up your brass . . . . get out of the way.  
pigs . . . . easy women. They live in pig shacks.  
pill roller . . . . Navy corpsman or hospital attendant.  
plate of 1,000 . . . . plate of beans.  
plowboy . . . . an awkward recruit.  
pogie bait . . . . candy or sweets.  
pollywog . . . . a Marine who has never been across the equator.

poncho . . . . blanket-like affair with  
hole in center for head.  
popeye . . . . spinach.  
pungyo . . . . Chinese for comrade or  
buddy.  
punk . . . . bread.

## Q

a quartermaster rain . . . . rain that  
does not interfere with schedules.

## R

red lead . . . . catsup.  
retread . . . . an officer called from re-  
tirement.  
ring tails . . . . a Marine gunner's name  
for Japs. And what a search it was  
to find a name we could print. The  
Marines have names for Japs that  
no lady ought to understand. It's  
inspired Billingsgate.  
rip ho . . . . Marine drill instructor's  
shorthand meaning, "And now,  
gentlemen, if you will bear with me  
a few moments longer, and can cap-  
ture the mood, we shall march to  
the rear."  
rise and shine . . . . a call used to wake  
up sleeping Marines.  
ropey . . . . disappointing or unsucces-  
sful.  
run aground . . . . got in trouble.

## S

sack time . . . . to take time out loafing  
on a bunk.  
skivvies . . . . underwear.  
scuttlebutt . . . . underground gossip.  
72 . . . . 72 hours' leave.  
sea bag . . . . a clothing bag which can  
be carried in the hand and packed  
to contain a trunkful of clothes the  
way a Marine can stow away.  
sea daddy . . . . an older Marine who

takes a young recruit and teaches  
him.  
sea dust . . . . salt.  
sea going turkey . . . . fish. Friday fare.  
sea hag . . . . an unlikely female.  
sea lawyer . . . . a Marine who is always  
talking.  
segoonya . . . . woman. (From the Chi-  
nese.)  
shack mammy . . . . native female of  
the South Pacific Islands.  
ships over . . . . means a Marine re-  
enlists.  
shohiza . . . . small boy (Chinese).  
Sometimes called shohi.  
shooting the breeze . . . . talking things  
over.  
sick bay . . . . hospital dispensary.  
sinkers . . . . doughnuts. Two big ones  
for a nickel at the Post Exchange.  
skin head . . . . a bald Marine.  
slapping it on . . . . punishing a Ma-  
rine for a minor offense.  
slopchute . . . . a beer joint.  
smoke blower . . . . a Marine whose  
compliments are discounted.  
smokestacking . . . . puts on a drunk  
act in quiet barracks after passing  
the sobriety scrutiny of the sentry.  
spit kit . . . . wooden container used as  
a spittoon.  
spud . . . . Chinese vodka or its equiv-  
alent. Sometimes called potato  
juice.  
squared away . . . . shipshape and in  
good order.  
standing lights . . . . lights left burning  
all night.  
striker . . . . a helper who really does  
the work.  
summary . . . . bad news.  
swabby . . . . a sailor. Sailors are also  
known as sea-weeds and swab-  
jockeys. Sailors refer to Marines as  
sea-going bellhops and also gy-  
renes. They both call a soldier a dog-  
face or blister-feet. But these are  
little superficialities and when they  
meet ashore in a bar or dancehall

their true feelings come out. Should one be over-attentive to another's girl it is cleared up quickly in the back room to the merry ringing of knuckles against front teeth and the joyous jerking of joints.

sweetheart .... a Marine's rifle. Every leatherneck treats it as such. He holds it carefully above his head when he wades ashore and he sits up at night to oil and polish it. You couldn't do that to a girl, you know. But it would be a lot of fun trying.

### T

target paste .... creamed chip beef.

Excellent for breakfast.

throw the book .... give the maximum punishment.

twist a dizzy .... roll a cigaret.

### U

up behind .... means drop the line. Used to notify all men to let go of a heaving line simultaneously.

### W

weed monkey .... girl between the ages of 12 and 16 who hangs outside the barracks at night.

worms .... spaghetti.

### Y

yaho pole .... Chinese word for a lifting pole.

Yehudi .... the little man who cracks you on the back of the head with a mallet when the chute opens. It is just the opening shock but there is nothing imaginary about the punch.



# AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND SLANG

## A

**the Abos** . . . . original black Australian aborigines.

**Aussies and Anzacs** . . . . Soldiers from Australia and New Zealand.

## B

**beano** . . . . a spread.

**the billy** . . . . can for boiling tea.

**out in the billy** . . . . back country.

**a bloke** . . . . a man.

**bloody** . . . . a noncommittal adjective dependent on the subsequent descriptions. A bloody fine fellow is a fine fellow while a bloody ignorant fellow is ignorant.

**boko** . . . . the nose.

**bonzer** . . . . means excellent.

**boshter** . . . . great.

**bosker** . . . . fine.

**a brownout** . . . . equivalent of a black-out diluted.

**a brumby** . . . . a broncho.

**"Bully pitch, Old Thing"** . . . . baseball's equivalent to "Good throw, Old Kid."

**the bush** . . . . the back country.

## C

**chivvy** . . . . back talk, being sassy.

**a cliner** . . . . a dame.

**cobber** . . . . side-kick or pal.

**cooce** . . . . Yoo hoo!

**a cove** . . . . a fellow.

**cow** . . . . bad.

## D

**a deener** . . . . shilling.

**ding bats** . . . . Italians.

**a ding dong** . . . . swell time.

**dinkie** . . . . cute.

**dinkie-die** . . . . true blue, 100% real.

**dinkum** . . . . a genuine person or article.

**dinkum oil** . . . . full truth.

**a Drago** . . . . a raw recruit. It is really the name of a clumsy Australian insect.

**to drop the bundle** . . . . surrender.

## G

**a gas producer** . . . . makes charcoal into motor fuel . . . and looks like a cross between a kitchen range, a moonshine still and a mail order comfort station.

## I

**imshi** . . . . leave abruptly, scam.

## J

**Jerries** . . . . Germans.

**joes** . . . . blues.

**jumping wine** . . . . Australia's domestic wine.

## K

**knocked up** . . . . tired out.

**to knock-up** . . . . awaken.

## L

**larrikin** . . . . drunk.

## M

**Matilda** . . . . bundle of personal effects.

**magged** . . . . to run off at the mouth.

**moke** , . . . horse.



## N

a nipper . . . . a small lad.  
nips . . . . Japs.

## P

plonk . . . . cheap wine.  
Pommies . . . . English. Derived from  
pomegranates; red-cheeked. Else-  
where the British are called Tom-  
mys which stems from Kipling's  
Tommy Atkins.  
punting . . . . betting.

## R

'Roo tail soup . . . . a tasty soup made  
from a kangaroo's tail. That's going  
a long way back for soup ho ho ho!

## S

shandy . . . . mixture of light ale and  
lemonade.  
Sheila . . . . a comely girl.  
shikkered . . . . drunk.  
a shivoo . . . . a party.  
I'll shout . . . . I'll buy the refresh-  
ments. A very cheering thought.

"Slay the bloke" . . . . kill the umpire.  
smooze . . . . to kiss a girl in sequence.  
sninny . . . . a young girl.  
a sprog . . . . a person of inferior rank.  
a squatter . . . . a farm owner.  
a station . . . . a ranch or a farm.  
stone . . . . measurement of weight.  
stonkered . . . . shell struck.  
a swagman . . . . a wayfarer, which is  
a very classy name for a tramp.

## T

tucker . . . . food.

## W

go whacks . . . . Dutch treat.  
a wowser . . . . a stuffed shirt or a dull,  
pompous fellow.

## Y

yakka . . . . hard work, sometimes re-  
ferred to as yacker but it's no pleas-  
ure under either name.

## Z

zack . . . . sixpence.



# SPARS SLANG

(Women's Auxiliary of the U. S. Coast Guard)

Motto: **Semper Paratus** . . . . "Always ready" and SPARS are the initials  
**S**                      **PAR S**

## A

**ample trample** . . . . regulation government shoes.  
**are you for sure?** . . . . do you mean really for true?  
**army caviar** . . . . beans.  
**an aunt Emma** . . . . a fat patriotic SPAR. Everything she eats goes to the front.

## B

**beat the booby** . . . . slap body to increase circulation.  
**bilge barge** . . . . the garbage boat.  
**buck passing** . . . . pretending not to see the come hither look in the eyes of strange service men. Well, not at first, anyway.  
**bumping the guns** . . . . idle chit chat of things nautical but nice.  
**burlap nylons** . . . . cotton stockings. Government issue.  
**pass the B 24** . . . . roast chicken.

## C

**campaign ribbons** . . . . lingerie straps. Their correct position denotes a successful campaign.  
**Can you bear it?** . . . . this reflects the girlish gurglings of delight over their first uniform.  
**a Casanova complex** . . . . elderly male officer who instructs SPARS officially but tries to promote extra-curricular activities along social lines.  
**circus water** . . . . any fruit drink.  
**a class in chenille** . . . . study in channels which is service terminology meaning instruction in for whom you have to see someone to see some-

one else for whom. Now are there any questions?

**cocoa loco** . . . . hilarity from indulgence in soft drinks.

**come to Nature** . . . . be yourself.

**the Commander said No!** . . . . this means a refusal. However, if a girl should change her mind later, she pipes up, "But the Admiral said Yes!"

**cubbling** . . . . sleeping in bunks.

## D

**a damp lamp** . . . . a girl who tries to shine brilliantly despite mental limitations.

**didie pins** . . . . Lieutenant's shoulder bars.

**a Don Ameche** . . . . a telephone message.

**Do you mind if I make notes?** . . . . it means that what you are saying is entirely lacking in veracity.

**a dot-dashing young man** . . . . radio operator.

## E

**to crolflynn a sandwich** . . . . eat hastily. Wolf it down.

**my etchings** . . . . scratches on body from field maneuvers and calisthenics.

## F

**a flag waver** . . . . great fun to start a new SPAR after. Have her try the commissioned officers first. Imaginary.

**a fag hag** . . . . girl who smokes frequently.

a flack hack . . . . a mobile anti-aircraft gun.  
I'm going to walk towards the ocean  
until I float my toupee . . . . tragic  
exuberance over a poor class grade.  
full sail . . . . a slip that shows. Also  
known as an Irish pennant.  
my flowers and firelight . . . . my fiancé.

## G

G I lemonade . . . . water.  
a girdle? . . . . gurgle? It means will  
you have a coke or soft drink?  
to go below . . . . downstairs in a barracks,  
ship or lighthouse or observation tower.  
the goon shin . . . . summer uniform.  
Gremlins . . . . mischievous sprites who  
ice up wings, meddle with the compass  
and change your nickels to dimes when  
you reach for one at the phone. Imaginary.  
a grub gabble . . . . gay girlish gushings.

## H

going Hell-bound-unsound . . . . gay  
anticipation of the next liberty.

## I

I can give you a split week between  
Pottsville and Chambersburg . . . .  
this means that your act or witticisms  
have a negligible entertainment value.  
it kit . . . . leather bag slung from left  
shoulder containing make-up.  
I've got the G I's . . . . gastronomic  
insurrections. Sometimes closely follows  
the arrival of a large box of candy.

## J

Jane-of-the-dust . . . . storekeeper in  
boot camp.

jelly's sister . . . . means I'm in a jam.  
jiggallorum, jiggumagob, jagamaree,  
thingamabob, gizmo, gadget and a  
whatsis . . . . articles whose technical  
names escape you for the moment,  
presuming, of course, that at one  
time you really did know them  
which is some presuming if you  
follow me, I betcha.  
a jody . . . . girl in civilian life.  
to jump salty . . . . become a thoroughbred,  
sea-going SPAR.  
jungle Juliets . . . . girls in the Marines.

## K

knobbing . . . . credit.

## L

the lemon pie . . . . the white-topped  
summer hat.  
a limp blimp . . . . a half inflated dirigible.  
the live wire . . . . SPAR who giggles at  
own humor at lights out.  
love that boy . . . . an ejaculation. Your  
grandmother might have said Heavens  
to Betsy, or the Lord preserve us,  
said Mrs. Davis.  
Lowbold . . . . a nasty little Gremlin  
who suddenly turns on scalding water  
when you are in the shower, or just  
as unexpectedly switches on ice water.

## N

she's a napkin . . . . the insinuation is  
that the function of a napkin is to  
sort of recline in a man's lap, and,  
you can pick it up from here I'm  
sure.

## O

on the grooby side . . . . progressing  
favorably.  
an overstrewn galoon . . . . a fat boy.

## P

If you will pardon me, I have something in the oven and I don't want it to burn . . . . it means that what you are saying has so little interest for me, I must beg to be excused, or, if I am to stay, you will have to discourse on a more mutually inveigling topic. Boys, for instance.  
 pigging up . . . . eating sweetmeats hungrily.  
 pistol-packin' mamas . . . . copperettes.  
 Military Police Traffic duty.  
 poached egg . . . . insignia on an officer's hat.  
 a phone book Casanova . . . . a sailor who goes ashore with a list of phone numbers. The first girl who answers the telephone is his true love.  
 she's a poor F . . . . friendly civilian or a girl not in uniform.  
 put me on air . . . . stake me to a cigaret.

## R

a raid . . . . unannounced physical examination.  
 to rape tape . . . . disregard military disciplinary rules.  
 a rat race . . . . dance.  
 rig in your starboard boom . . . . pull in your elbows and give me a chance at this corn on the cob.  
 a rocket gun . . . . an impetuous service man who thinks that as you both wear a uniform you have something in common besides the uniform . . . and he isn't thinking of patriotism.  
 the Rover boys . . . . sailors.

## S

sabotaged . . . . German measles.  
 saloon . . . . so long. It's a sort of good-

bye. Another variation is when one SPAR would say Lamour and the other would reply Sarong. Of course, the main thing is if they're healthy.

scandal sheet . . . . payroll.  
 scuttlebutt . . . . gossip.  
 sea dust . . . . salt.  
 a seawolf . . . . a sailor with ideas.  
 secret weapon . . . . sex.  
 shooting the breeze . . . . chatting.  
 shore leave . . . . sure love 'em and sure leave 'em. Girlish boastings.  
 a short snorter . . . . a girl who has flown an ocean.  
 the sixty-four dollar question . . . . where do we go from here?  
 skull practice . . . . poring over textbooks.  
 a snark . . . . a SPAR who waits to the last second to man her post.  
 some of Hitler's work, no doubt . . . . it's an attempt to create a laugh which will vitiate the censor for your own shortcomings. I don't know what it means either.

## T

a talented boy . . . . any lad with money who is willing to spend. Sometimes called a doughboy when it is obvious he is in another branch of the service.  
 talk to me, baby . . . . it means pull me out of this mood in your own dumb way. Life has fallen about my ears.  
 toe-holds . . . . bedroom slippers.  
 turkey incognito . . . . salmon.

## V

a vertical tub . . . . shower.  
 see the vice president in charge of vice . . . . a brush off when someone wants to discuss out of bound subjects.

W

Who wears your clean shirts? .... a  
nasty crack.  
weather deck .... floor exposed to ele-  
ments in barracks or on ship.

Y

You're as sharp as a woolen muffler  
.... it means that you're as sharp  
as a woolen muffler.



# WAVES SLANG

(These girls belong to the U. S. Naval Reserve, Women's Reserve. WAVE is a coined word meaning "Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service.")

## A

**admiral** . . . . white blanket with broad blue stripe and U S NAVY printed on it. Every WAVE wears an admiral around her shoulders for fire drill.

**all hands** . . . . the ship's entire company.

**AWOL** . . . . a wolf on the loose or a predatory male looking for friendly doings.

**aye aye, sir** . . . . a very nautical term meaning you betcha.

## B

**a bag** . . . . a friend.

**barnacle list** . . . . list of the sick.

**bear a hand** . . . . hurry up.

**beating the booby** . . . . swinging the arms for warmth.

**a big deal** . . . . uncalled for action.

**bilge out** . . . . to flunk out.

**binnacle** . . . . stand in which the compass rests.

**blind flying** . . . . going on a blind date.

**blitz pants** . . . . coveralls.

**the bluebraid** . . . . Women's Reserve officer.

**your booby trap is sprung** . . . . your slip is showing.

**bos'n pipe** . . . . shrill whistle for rendering side honors and passing information aboard ship.

**boudoir technique** . . . . skill ascending upper bunk bed.

**brooming** . . . . rapid speed.

**bulkhead** . . . . walls to a landlubber.

## C

**caulk off** . . . . sleep.

**cheap liberty** . . . . a look at the shore through binoculars.

**shall we check this place** . . . . leave.

**check your hat or check the gloves** . . . . means I take note of your hat and very chic.

**a cobra** . . . . unexpected changes in weekly schedules. So-called because they throw the staff into a state of confusion.

**C O D** . . . . come over, dear.

**come to the party** . . . . quit day dreaming and focus on the immediate job.

**conning tower** . . . . point from which steering of ship is observed.

**a convoy** . . . . date.

**crack the joint** . . . . get out of a place by force or into one.

## D

**daisy chain** . . . . physical examination.

The girls line up one behind the other and the doctors scrutinize the peduncle, calyx, corolla, stamens and pistil.

**DD** . . . . a dishonorable discharge.

## E

**ensign** . . . . national flag, also junior officer in the Navy.

## F

**five by five** . . . . overweight.

**flopping the window shades** . . . . flickering the eyelashes amorously.

**front porch etiquette** . . . . showing personal emotions.

## G

galley . . . . ship's kitchen.  
 gear . . . . general name for ship's or sailor's equipment.  
 G I nylons . . . . cotton hose.  
 glop . . . . unappetizing food.  
 Gremlin . . . . navy blue cotton summer suit for Women's Reserve. Officially eliminated.  
 it gripes my cookies . . . . disgusts me.  
 guffy . . . . tough.

## H

hash marks . . . . red or gold stripes on a sailor's sleeve, each denoting a four year enlistment. Gold signifies good behavior.  
 Havelock list . . . . unofficial black list. Should students in training dislike an officer, the officer's name makes the Havelock list.  
 the hen pen . . . . girl's quarters. Also laughingly called virgin territory.  
 hip kits . . . . girdles. Isn't that adorable?  
 to hit the bluebook . . . . get a good grade.  
 It hurts me, too . . . . it means that if you achieve extraordinary success and are complimented, you can retain your modesty by quoting the above.

## I

Irish pennants . . . . wisps of loose hair, handkerchief flowing, or slip showing. Anything loose or untidy.

## J

let's jelly . . . . if you drop in for a coke where males drift about, rather than bolt the coke and dash off, you imbibe it leisurely.

## L

ladder . . . . stairs.  
 let's blitz . . . . leave.  
 let's get the show on the road . . . . get started.  
 a lily . . . . a 'fraidcat.  
 he listens O K . . . . it means that he sounds acceptable from your description, but I will reserve judgment.  
 lizzles . . . . Navy cotton stockings.  
 Lisles.  
 lucky bag . . . . locker for lost clothing.

## M

a moldy sack . . . . a person who doesn't fit in.

## N

Navy bags . . . . uniforms.  
 my nose . . . . it implies a hand gesture with the thumb anchored to the proboscis.

## P

pants' patrol . . . . strolling accidentally into male territory.  
 he tore his pants with me . . . . something he did wrecked our beautiful companionship.  
 porgy bait . . . . candy.

## R

rank . . . . grade of a commissioned officer.  
 rating . . . . grade of an enlisted man.  
 let's rinse it . . . . forget it.  
 ripple . . . . status of a WAVE between swearing in and finishing training.

## S

scuttlebutt . . . . rumor or gossip.  
 sea dust . . . . salt.  
 shell back . . . . an old sailor.

shipshape .... neat, seamanlike.  
sickbay .... ship's hospital.  
sideboys .... enlisted men forming a  
a guard to honor distinguished visi-  
tors welcomed aboard.  
smoking lamp is lit .... mythical  
lamp signifying that smoking is  
permitted.  
he can soak his socks in my coffee ....  
there are qualities about him which  
I admire greatly.  
spitkit .... receptacle for cigarette  
butts.  
square away .... to stow. To prepare.  
stand by .... order to be alert for im-  
pending task.

striker .... enlisted man working for  
a rating.  
striper .... officer.

T

tents .... coats. Wearing apparel.  
they're a thing .... in love.  
turn to .... start the day's work. A  
very unclubby suggestion in the  
cold, grey dawn when you used to  
be just getting home from a dance.

Z

zombie .... anyone who receives a  
commission prior to training.





# ARMY AND NAVY NURSES SLANG

## A

- Annie** . . . any nurse who administers anaesthesia.  
**Arizona tenor** . . . a consumptive.  
**arthritis of the cerebellum** . . . a dumb person.  
**Aunt D** . . . means a doctor who is against dissection. Full title is an antidiscectarian. Not against distraction, however.

## B

- a B B E** . . . blondes before the eyes. Signifies an enlisted man who claims he has spots before the eyes, but the nurses think differently.  
**bed pan alley** . . . the hospital.  
**a blood sucker** . . . a person who applies Wasserman tests.  
**the Blues** . . . two-tone blue uniforms. Olive drab is G I now for Army nurses.  
**a bouquet** . . . a plexus.  
**Bronx Braille** . . . a patient who likes to paw the nurses.  
**brown kitties** . . . bronchitis.  
**the bug farm** . . . tuberculosis sanatorium.

## C

- cricket banks** . . . glass preserve jars where silk stockings are kept from being eaten by crickets in India and the middle east.  
**a cripp faker** . . . a patient who pretends to be crippled.  
**a cotton pusher** . . . a dentist who is over-rushed with patients and is driven to using temporary cotton fillers in cavities.

## D

- a D D** . . . a deaf and dumb person.  
**a dirty nurse** . . . handles unsterilized articles, usually in the operating room.  
**the dock** . . . any Army or Navy hospital. Also called the repair shop.  
**a doctor's delight** . . . private patient who is an imaginary invalid and pays well.  
**a doctrine** . . . a female M.D.

## E

- an elevator** . . . plastic surgeon.

## F

- a finger-smith** . . . a midwife.  
**a follow-up man** . . . mortician. Sometimes called a land broker.

## G

- a gas patient** . . . one taking pneumothorax treatment for pneumonia.  
**to go through the solutions** . . . dip hands in disinfectants prior to an operation.  
**Good Sam** . . . the Good Samaritan Hospital in Los Angeles, California.  
**a G P** . . . a gratitude patient in private practice. No money.  
**a Grahamite** . . . a vegetarian.  
**a gravy hound** . . . prison hospital patient.  
**a grief case** . . . a patient who causes trouble.  
**gubbins** . . . soiled dressings.

## H

- historian** . . . nurse in charge of charts of patients.

hoot owl therapeutics . . . . a light left burning in nurse's quarters to discourage hoot owls from disturbing slumbers.

hot house . . . . a sweat bath house.

a humming bird . . . . a patient who howls during the night and prevents other patients from sleeping. Likes attention.

a hypo . . . . a hypochondriac.

## I

idiotorium . . . . hospital for insane.

inkie . . . . incubator baby.

in-patient . . . . sleeps in a hospital bed.

insomniac . . . . a patient with insomnia. Boasts about it.

insufferable pills . . . . sulfanilamide tablets to stop infection.

## J

the janitor . . . . the pylorus.

jerker . . . . patient with delirium tremens in technicolor.

## K

the kitchen . . . . stomach.

kittens . . . . fluffy balls of dust which gather in corners under beds.

## L

a loblolly . . . . lad serving as ship surgeon's attendant.

## M

a mental . . . . a psychopathic case. Often called a nut or a Psychot.

Milk and Honey . . . . the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, Los Angeles, California.

misery hall . . . . emergency dressing station.

## N

a night float . . . . a relief nurse.

night walker . . . . hospital ward boy or night orderly.

## O

old Joe . . . . U. S. Dispensary book of formulae.

orange-pop man . . . . a patient with Cupid Sitch.

out-patient . . . . visits hospital for treatment.

## P

a pill swallower . . . . chronic sick person.

a probationer . . . . newly admitted student nurse.

## Q

the Queen . . . . Queen of Angels Hospital, Los Angeles, California.

## R

the Red House . . . . St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Government Institution, Washington, D. C.

don't run a temperature . . . . get unduly excited. Admonition often used when nurses discuss manly males.

## S

scar erasers . . . . a run-around for young nurses. Imaginary.

schizzy . . . . crazy. Derived from schizophrenia.

a scrub nurse . . . . a sterile nurse who handles instruments.

a seed worker . . . . native doctors who sell psyllium for all ailments including sluggishness.

sick bay . . . . ship's hospital.

a sippy . . . sips liquids.

a sociopath . . . a surly neurotic who hates women. Now what has he got to look forward to, I ask you. There's no future in drinking.

a staircase . . . a continuously increasing series of responses to nerve stimuli.

a stiffy . . . a paralytic.

stink kitchen . . . chemical laboratory.

a sundowner . . . an M. D. in government employ who conducts a private practice after office hours.

## T

a ten finger man . . . a chiropractor.

a throw-out . . . a patient who can throw a joint out of place at will.

## V

get vulcanized . . . have a wound cared for.

## W

a water doctor . . . a hydropathist.



# U. S. MARINES SLANG

(Women's Auxiliary)

## A

**He's A and A** . . . this indicates that the gentleman referred to is ambidextrous and amphibious, which means that a girl on a date with him has to watch out for his two hands on land or water or in the air.

**arithmetic bugs** . . . mosquitos, insects. They add to the misery, subtract from the pleasure, divide the attention and multiply like Hades.

## B

**a bag with a sag** . . . a fat girl.

**the bat-eared Gremlin or Duticulatus prangiferos** . . . has a long, sharp nose and specializes in inexplicable rips in wings and fuselages.

**blue birds** . . . what a girl Marine calls a WAVE.

**body movies** . . . tattooing.

**booby traps** . . . a slip showing.

**a bootee** . . . girl recruit in training camp.

**a Brigsniff** . . . member of the Gremlin family who bites through control wires and jams the guns. Imaginary.

**Britannica** . . . comb. It derives from Britannica rules the waves.

**brow pads** . . . the fore and aft caps.

**browned off** . . . bored with it all.

**bulkheads** . . . walls.

**burnt offering** . . . toast.

## C

**caviar** . . . beans.

**chevron polish** . . . a green recruit will sometimes spend a lot of time trying to locate some of this. Imaginary.

**a cluck buck** . . . an adolescent soldier who talks of home and mother.

**the Creaper** . . . another Gremlin who has an ingratiating manner, gets the confidence of a pilot and then tampers with the instrument needles and causes a stall.

**the Crooker** . . . the dirtiest Gremlin of them all. He waits until a pilot has been flying a long time through clouds and then whispers, "You're flying upside down." The pilot hurriedly turns over and flies upside down while the Crooker laughs and laughs and sneaks off and drinks the gasoline, leaving the pilot barely enough to get home on.

## D

**Des Moines debts** . . . what a girl Marine calls a WAC.

**Did you have an appointment?** . . . spoken very unseriously by one girl to another. Friendly kidding.

**Don't call, leave your phone number** . . . same as above.

**it's Dracula** . . . in a class by itself.

**to dummy up** . . . assume innocence.

## E

**the Emily Dinsmores** . . . term used to refer to the SPARS.

**an eager beaver** . . . one of your classmates who is smarter than the others and knows it and does it and shows it. As Jimmy Durante would say, "It's mortifyin'."

## F

**a fan dancer** . . . a girl Marine on the business end of a broom.

an **FHA** . . . . a loan from a pal.  
fourth class liberty . . . . a look at the  
shore through the binoculars.  
it fractured me . . . . nonplussed me.  
a frozen mouse . . . . chocolate ice  
cream.

## G

galley . . . . kitchen.  
a gay ape . . . . any service man who  
performs training routines to enter-  
tain girls.  
G I cocoanuts . . . . brassieres.  
a goon . . . . slow on the pick-up caus-  
ing confusion.  
the grinder . . . . drill field.

## H

a heroine . . . . means a large woman.  
Everything she eats goes to the  
front.  
he's an allotment . . . . denotes a serv-  
ice man with a wife.

## I

I hardly think you're the type we're  
looking for today . . . . a very dis-  
couraging statement used to squelch  
over-ambitious Romeos.  
I may have a weekend for you . . . this  
is different. This is the green light  
but don't try to move in too fast.

## J

a jig . . . . an Ethiopian.  
a Joe oak . . . . a lad who majors in  
puns ad nauseum.  
jungle Juliets . . . . girl Marines.  
jute nylons . . . . cotton stockings.

## L

leave your name and address and if  
anything turns up, we'll get in  
touch with you . . . . gay whimsey

from one girl to another. It means  
anything but what it says.  
a lug jug . . . . soldier who carries a  
flask.

## M

the mail female . . . . the mail orderly.  
It spells all right but it sounds like  
something out of Ripley.  
make me believe it . . . . disregard facts  
and bowl me over.  
a math prof . . . . a mathematics pro-  
fessor. However, it doesn't indicate  
such a gentleman and scholar. It is  
used to designate a young, ambi-  
tious chap who can add two and  
two and get sex.  
medals under eyes . . . . the morning  
after a date with a service man. If  
the date was with a civilian, they  
are just plain bags.  
a mothball . . . . a girl who never gets  
a date so works on her clothes.  
mother and father were cousins but  
I'm all right . . . . the gestures which  
accompany this are sticking tongue  
out of corner of mouth and looking  
cross-eyed at tip of nose. Very star-  
tling. The purpose is to convey the  
impression someone else is crazy.

## O

the one o'clock jump . . . . elevator.

## P

parole . . . . graduation.  
PFD . . . . private for the duration.  
the pickle label . . . . chevrons.  
a piece of cake . . . . an easy job.  
plant me now, dig me later . . . . tell  
me of life and love and strong mas-  
culine arms about me in the moon-  
light, soft music and champagne.  
Later on, much later, you can take  
up the penalties and hard facts.

the platoon spittoon . . . . plumbing fixtures surrounding a gargling girl.  
pop-ins . . . . poplin shirts.  
pullets . . . . fledgling recruits.

## R

rats . . . . soft cocoons of fluff which tumble about the floor in conspicuous manner during inspection of quarters and mysteriously vanish as soon as the C.O. delivers the demerits.

a rhinorrea . . . . a cold.  
right off the cob . . . . a rural recruit.  
rugged Rogers . . . . government issue shoes, also known as boondockers.  
rumpus room . . . . powder room.

## S

she's steady . . . . sounds like a compliment but it implies that she is motionless.

a silly filly . . . . very young civilian girls who hang around men's barracks. Often called khaki-wackies.

skywinders . . . . airmen.

a soapy hope . . . . wishful thinking.

sorority sauce . . . . catsup.

spitkits . . . . ash trays.

spizerinkum . . . . intestinal fortitude.

a srewn platoon . . . . sloppy drill.

my stable . . . . the pin-up boys.  
stairs . . . . ladder of rope or iron.  
state your case and be brief . . . . this appalls a new recruit by its business-like brevity, but they soon learn to reply, "Oh, a brief case."

street monkey . . . . drum major in band.

strictly stock . . . . dull.

swinging on the meat . . . . over-anxious to please officers.

## T

a 3 P.M. picture . . . . implies an excellent cinema to which three Military Police will be assigned for routine duty.

traffic daffic . . . . away from a city so long that the red and green traffic lights are confusing.

a tug-lug . . . . a male companion who disregards your uniform and excellent physical condition and solicitously holds your elbow over the curb.

the twister to the slammer . . . . key to locker trunk.

## W

the watch works . . . . the brain.

worming . . . . studying.



# WRENS AND WAAFS SLANG

(WRENS—Women's Royal Naval Service attached to the British Royal Navy)

(WAAFS—Women's Auxiliary Air Force attached to the Royal Air Force)

## A

**adrift** . . . . away from headquarters.

## B

**a bad show** . . . . anything which is not up to expectations, often referred to as a black.

**broolly** . . . . parachute.

**brownd off** . . . . bored.

**buttoned up** . . . . under control of orders executed.

## C

**cheesed** . . . . messed up.

**chokker** . . . . expresses a state of mind wherein one is tired of it all.

**collecting gongs** . . . . casual reference to a trip to Buckingham Palace for the honor of being decorated with medals.

**crickets** . . . . Nazi planes.

**crushers** . . . . petty officers who rebuke one for discipline infractions.

## D

**dripping** . . . . grumbling.

**the dust bin** . . . . rear gunner's turret on plane.

## E

**erk** . . . . British recruit. Often a mechanic.

## F

**flak** . . . . bursts from anti-aircraft guns.

## G

**George** . . . . automatic pilot in a plane.

**give a bottle** . . . . receive a lecture from the Commanding Officer.

**the greenhouse** . . . . portable cockpit cover.

## J

**jaunty** . . . . master-at-arms.

**a Junkerschmitt** . . . . any German plane.

## K

**a killick** . . . . a WREN's sailor boy friend.

**a kipperkite** . . . . a Coastal Command plane.

## L

**laid on** . . . . a job performed satisfactorily.

## M

**Mickey Mouse** . . . . the bomb releasing mechanism.

## O

**Old Boomerang** . . . . Lockheed Hudson plane. Always returns home.

**the oppo** . . . . a boy friend in the Royal Navy.

**the outside view** . . . . keeping altitude to avoid anti-aircraft bursts.

P

penguins .... non-flyers attached to the R.A.F.  
 pleep .... anything poor.  
 a pongo .... a WREN's soldier boy friend.  
 a pukka .... a comely dame.  
 pulpit .... cockpit.

R

ropey .... bad, uncooperative. Could be an obstinate girl.  
 rum .... bad, poor.

S

scran .... excellent.  
 to scream downhill .... dive on an enemy plane.  
 snake about .... cruising about in clouds awaiting enemy planes. Also known as playing pussy.

a solid lump of blitz .... a formation of enemy planes.

T

tiddley .... all dressed up whether it be a lad, a ship, or a girl.

U

going up the line .... furlough.

V

the views .... the slant on anything.

W

it's wizard .... excellent.  
 WAAFS carry a reddish colored identification card .... Notice posted at headquarters: "WAAFS, upon proper military demand, must show their pink forms."





# WACS SLANG

(Women's Auxiliary Corps, U. S. Army)

## A

**abandoned by a bandit** . . . an ardent  
boy friend gave up the pursuit.  
**agony shift** . . . night work.  
**arsenal wear** . . . G I lingerie.

## B

**barracks bags** . . . morning-after circles under the eyes.  
**beat up** . . . weary. In a condition for salvage.  
**blitz britches** . . . rayon O. D. panties for wear with skirts.  
**the blow boy** . . . bugler, also known as the windjammer and Gabriel.  
**boll weevils** . . . thick brown cotton stockings.  
**the book rack** . . . the bunk bed.  
**bum biology** . . . study class in incendiary bombs.  
**the burp class** . . . class in defense against gas attack.  
**butcher** . . . dentist.

## C

**a canteen cowboy** . . . a soldier who spends time and money at the canteen in order to chat with the uniformed girls who wait on customers.  
**the cat walk** . . . pathway between the sleeping bunks to the powder room.  
**she's a cheer** . . . a fat WAC. A cheer starts out Hip Hip Hurrah with two fat hips which makes a fat WAC a cheer or shall we just let the whole thing drop?  
**chow down** . . . dinner is served.  
**a class in lemonade** . . . First Aid instruction.  
**coming in on a wing and a prayer** . . . chicken for dinner and a prayer that it's tender.

**confetti** . . . blarney, flattery.  
**cool** . . . good.  
**cops** . . . inspecting officers.  
**costume jewelry** . . . WAC military insignia.  
**to cut off a scene** . . . to leave, exit.

## D

**dry ammunition** . . . cosmetics.  
**dunk the lilywhite** . . . take a shower.

## F

**a fat apple** . . . a grouch.  
**a foolish virgin** . . . girl who prefers books to boys.

## G

**She's a G I jane** . . . O.K. Strictly on the level.  
**gigs** . . . demerits.  
**G I necklaces** . . . identification tags.  
**the Good News Tree** . . . big tree at WAC Training Camp, Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., where orders are posted which start WACS to the Seven Seas.  
**got me pushed** . . . it's got me baffled and I don't know what to do.  
**he's gravy** . . . a good-looking male.  
**gruesome twosome** . . . WAC regulation shoes.

## H

**hair warden** . . . camp hairdresser.  
**harpoon detail** . . . getting immunization shots.  
**headache roster** . . . duty roster.  
**heavy** . . . excellence. We had some heavy grapes last night.  
**He did?** . . . means say that again with more details.

Here's to me, good girls are scarce ....  
WAC toast over a coke.  
Hobby Lobby .... WAC Chief Colonel  
Hobby's Headquarters.

## J

jeep jockeys .... WAC auto mechan-  
ics in Motor Transport.  
jubilee .... reveille.

## L

lay on a pad and cop a nod .... retire  
to the bunk bed.

## M

make a dash .... leave.  
making liaison .... promoting an in-  
teresting friendship with a hand-  
some man.  
monkey suits .... G I coveralls.  
moose .... a male visitor to the camp.

## N

a narrow Flynn .... a narrow escape  
from an impetuous lover.  
night maneuvers .... dates with boys.

## O

orchid hunt .... furlough.

## P

Shall we lay the pads on the bricks  
over the week-end? .... shall we  
promote liberty and go sightseeing  
in the nearby city?  
pardon my bare hand .... humorous  
WAC etiquette.  
I'm PFC .... praying for a corporal  
which translated means I want a  
man.  
potty .... disagrees.  
powder-rumors .... L.R.'s. Latrine

rumors. Gossip and communiqués  
that start and end nowhere.  
press the flesh .... shake hands and  
allow me to congratulate you.  
P T .... physical training and setting  
up exercises.  
put a nickel in it .... hurry up.  
putting on a face .... make-up. Cos-  
metics.

## Q

quail .... young females who follow  
soldiers entranced by their uni-  
form.  
quit flapping your lips .... be good  
enough to desist in your conversa-  
tion.

## R

rat race .... burst of speed to the mess  
hall.  
reporting for duty .... going to meet  
a date.  
he's right out of Buck Rogers .... a  
strong, masculine soldier who hasn't  
been around women much.  
reverse the frames .... bicycling on  
your shoulders without the bicycle.  
the rogues gallery .... pin-up boys.  
Male pictures on the wall.  
rubber balls .... oranges.  
rubber patches .... pancakes.  
rush .... pass. Rush the potatoes.

## S

a sad apple .... a goldbrick. One who  
shuns work.  
back in S and S .... means back when  
the WAC camps opened and the  
menus were composed of salads and  
sandwiches which later gave way to  
roast beef, potatoes, etc.  
a savage .... an eccentric character.  
to scoff .... to dine.  
a scrowge .... a lad talented in oscu-  
lation.

THE SQUARE  
FROM DELAWARE  
HAD A NARROW  
FLYNN WITH A  
SAVAGE; STRAIGHT  
FROM DRACULA

SHE'S SCREWY  
AS A TOAD.  
THAT CANTEEN-  
COWBOY'S NO  
SCROWGE.  
PUT A  
NICKEL IN IT...  
I'M OFF ON  
AN ORCHID  
HUNT



**I was scrozzled . . . .** they took unfair  
 advantage of me.  
**she ranks me . . . .** a double meaning  
 expression delivered as a compli-  
 ment and meaning that although  
 she is of higher rank nevertheless  
 she is rank to me.  
**she's screwy as a toad . . . .** reflection on  
 her mentality and thought processes.  
**she's a square from Delaware . . . .** a  
 girl who hails from a small town.  
**a slangwich . . . .** WAC who excels in  
 picturesque service slang.  
**snake eyes . . . .** a WAC who attempts  
 to steal another's boy friend.  
**I'm goin' to get stinkin' from drinkin'**  
**I'm thinkin' . . . .** expresses exuber-  
 ant despair over a minor failure and  
 often leads to a malted milk binge.  
**He's straight from Dracula . . . .** an in-  
 teresting male in a repulsive sort of  
 a way.  
**straight jacket . . . .** starched shirt.  
**strictly from the commissary . . . .** re-  
 fers to a uniform and insinuates it  
 once contained potatoes.

## T

**take her down to the butchers . . . .** a  
 fat girl who might be rendered.  
**the target for tonight . . . .** a boy friend.

## U

**she belongs to the upper classes . . . .**  
 sleeps in the upper bunk bed.

## V

**varsity crewman . . . .** any Navy officer  
 who passes.

## W

**the WAC shack . . . .** barracks. Some-  
 times called the Wackery.  
**the Wax Works . . . .** school house.  
**WAC happy . . . .** physical well being,  
 good food and companionship and  
 a classy uniform create an excess of  
 exuberance.  
**Who hung that sack on you? . . . .** in-  
 dicates admiration for another's uni-  
 form.  
**wolfing . . . .** going where males con-  
 gregate.  
**a wrong number . . . .** a false friend.

## Y

**You ain't just clickin' your pickets . . . .**  
 this denotes that despite the staccato  
 obligato of your dentures, there is  
 considerable truth in your testimony.  
**You ain't kiddin' . . . .** here it means  
 that although the usual silly look is  
 in your face, you have inadvertently  
 stated a fact that can be substanti-  
 ated. Yes, indeed, and I guess that  
 finishes this book so, if you will ex-  
 cuse me, I promised my psychiatrist  
 I would bring him over a trunk full  
 of pancakes and syrup this after-  
 noon. I see it has begun to leak a  
 little on the floor so if you will just  
 help me up with it onto my shoul-  
 ders. Gently does it. Ooops, steady  
 now. That's good. Thank you.  
 Well, goodbye, and as I always say,  
 "My mother and father were cous-  
 ins, but I'm all right." If you need  
 me for anything, just follow the trail  
 of the syrup.



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